

Volume 86

Thursday, August 29, 1996

Number 1

The McGill Daily

This is a chalkboard since 1911

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McGill Daily
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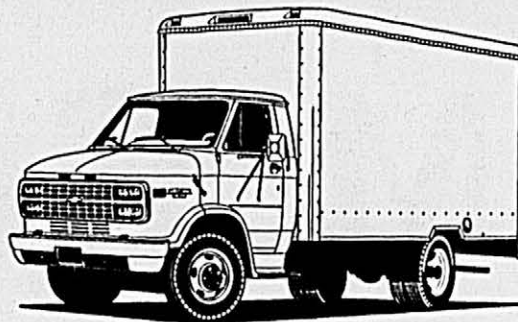
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As the school year grinds to a start and new and returning McGill students find their way to campus, we at *The McGill Daily* are also getting ready for a new school — and publishing — year.

Slowly, writers, editors and photographers are trickling down into the basement of the Shatner building and into our office in room B-03.

We hope you may do the same.

After all, *The McGill Daily* is your paper. Each student contributes a small annual levy through their student fees toward the publication of the *Daily*, which is distributed free in news stands across campus.

With three issues a week, one of them in French, we feel it's a small price to pay, because the *Daily* is more than just a student newspaper. It is an integral part of the McGill community, and has been since 1911. (To learn more about the *Daily* and how you can become involved, see the User's Guide

on pages 6-7.)

This year, we hope to continue to do what we do best: challenge and inform our readers by covering news and culture in a way that other newspapers don't.

The institution you have just entered is, in many ways, still rooted in an outdated vision of what should be studied and whose stories should be told.

Granted, the University's accepted areas of academia are slowly being widened. For example, students interested in majoring in Women's Studies will finally be able to do so at McGill this fall (see page 4).

But despite this important step forward, life at this University still leaves a lot to be desired. For one thing, many vantage points remain left out in lecture halls. McGill offers few courses that include queer perspectives, for example, or First Nations' experiences in their depiction of society.

Welcome to McGill.

Welcome, too, to the vibrant community of students and their allies who have long struggled, and will continue to struggle, to re-shape their educational environment.

becoming a profit-driven institution.

But budget cuts extend far beyond the Roddick Gates, as a glance at recent headlines indicates. More often than not, the spending cuts of Canada's federal and provincial governments bring more poverty than anything else.

In this issue of the *Daily* you will not only read about developments immediately affecting life on this campus, but the effects of growing poverty and homelessness in other areas of Ontario and Québec as well. Although poverty may not be a hot topic on every student's conversation list, it is becoming the reality of more and more Canadians' lives.

Much of what you read in this paper may not fall into traditionally defined "student issues". That's because at the *Daily*, we feel that all

issues are student issues, from tuition fee hikes to cuts to old age pension plans.

In terms of international coverage, the *Daily* also tries to include stories that reflect what is going on across the world. We think it's important, for instance, to keep you up to date on the developments in Guyana, where a cyanide spill from last year is still awaiting clean-up, even as the inhabitants of the area watch their environment deteriorate around them (page 20). And often, you'll find a World Watch column which provides briefs about international news that you might not find elsewhere (see page 17).

Within these walls and without, some voices are consistently louder than others. *The McGill Daily* tries to provide a forum for voices often ignored and issues often overlooked, while offering our readers the kind of critical, thought-provoking coverage they deserve.

A lot has changed since McGill first opened its doors 175 years ago, but a lot hasn't.

See you at the stands.

Idella Sturino, Robin Perelle, Anup Grewal, Samantha Murphy and Mike Cullen.



DAILY PHOTO BY MARIE-LOUISE GARIÉPY

Unfortunately, the administration recently rejected an opportunity for students to offer their input on McGill's future (see page 4). Such an opportunity would have been especially important given McGill's shift toward

since 1911
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Note from below

Extra! Extra! Read all about it!

Or write all about it!

Or photograph it!



If you like reading the news, maybe you'd also like to help piece it together.

The McGill Daily welcomes anyone interested in writing, taking photographs, helping with layout or contributing their ideas.

We're not only the oldest press on campus, we're by and for students (just like you).

If you would like to learn more about the *Daily*, drop by our recruitment meeting, Thursday September 5 at 17h in Shatner B-03 (That's B as in basement dungeon, but don't let that scare you away, now. Heh heh...)

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER...

McGill finally gets its Women's Studies Major

By Sonia Verma

It took at least five years of bureaucratic hassle and a series of revisions, but McGill's Women's Studies Major is finally free of red tape, and scheduled to begin this fall.

Over the summer, long after McGill's Course Calendar went to press, the McGill Centre for Research and Teaching on Women (MCRTW) received the go-ahead from the Provincial Ministry of Education to implement the much-anticipated major program.

Many say the move is long overdue. The draft proposal was originally submitted in November, 1991 to the Ministry of Education which is ultimately responsible for what degrees McGill can grant.

The last leg of the delay has been blamed on tough provincial criteria which are unique to Québec. These included a series of programme revisals amounting to an increase in the number of compulsory courses and a more thorough justification for the programme.

Maureen Baker, who assumed the MCRTW chair following Peta Tancred, described the process as an "astounding amount of bureaucracy." She is quick to add, however, that "McGill has been very supportive of the proposed major and the administration was very positive."

Before the proposal even made it to the provincial level, it underwent five stages of scrutiny at the University level. Although McGill readily endorsed the programme once the proposal was submitted, the under-representation of female faculty members in upper academic and administrative positions at McGill may explain why the proposal wasn't introduced earlier.

Though Women's Studies has been gaining recognition as an essential curriculum option at other institutions across the country, it has remained, until now, conspicuously absent from McGill's range of accepted academia.

"In order to have a woman's studies programme, you need a group of women professors to push for it and the percentage of women professors at McGill in higher positions has always been low," Baker contends. She points to a nationwide pattern of under-representation across the country where the percentage of women professors has risen only slightly from 14% to 17% over the past 20 years.

As it stands, the new major is interdisciplinary, involving a greater number of compulsory credits than its popular minor counterpart. Students can choose from a variety of different departments to fulfill their degree requirements, skirting the usual confines of most departmental programmes.

Women's Studies will, however, be relegated to non-departmental status. The means that control over resources, curriculum deci-

sions and the programme's overall success, will ultimately be determined by other departments. So if the Political Science or English department decides not to offer a Women's Studies course, the MCRTW will be left with little recourse other than lobbying the University.

This lack of autonomy has Tancred concerned that Women's Studies could be perceived as dispensable given the atmosphere of funding

cutbacks and university downsizing. "Financial cutbacks could pose a threat to any programme, but some programmes are more vulnerable than others."

The success of the Women's Studies Major will ultimately depend on enrollment numbers, and MCRTW is counting on an accumulate enrollment of 60 students over the next three years to maintain its status.

For now, academic trailblazers who choose the pro-

gramme will not only have the opportunity to delve into the plethora of existing feminist scholarship to a greater extent than before, but will also get the added bonus of knowing that their participation is instrumental in ensuring the program's very existence at the University in the future.

Students interested in the Women's Studies Major should contact the McGill Centre for Research and Teaching on Women at 398-3911.

REQUIEM FOR A FORUM

Senate kills Estates General and another chance for student input

By Zachary Schwartz

"Let's cancel classes and hold an open forum for all students, faculty and staff." This was essentially the proposal brought before McGill's administration in May.

It could have been a bold new chance for McGill's community — students included — to shape the future of the University. Or it could have

been a wasteful exercise in public relations.

This summer, McGill's main administrative decision-making body decided on the latter.

On May 29, after its second round of debating, the faculty, staff and students of McGill's Senate killed the proposal for an Estates General by a vote

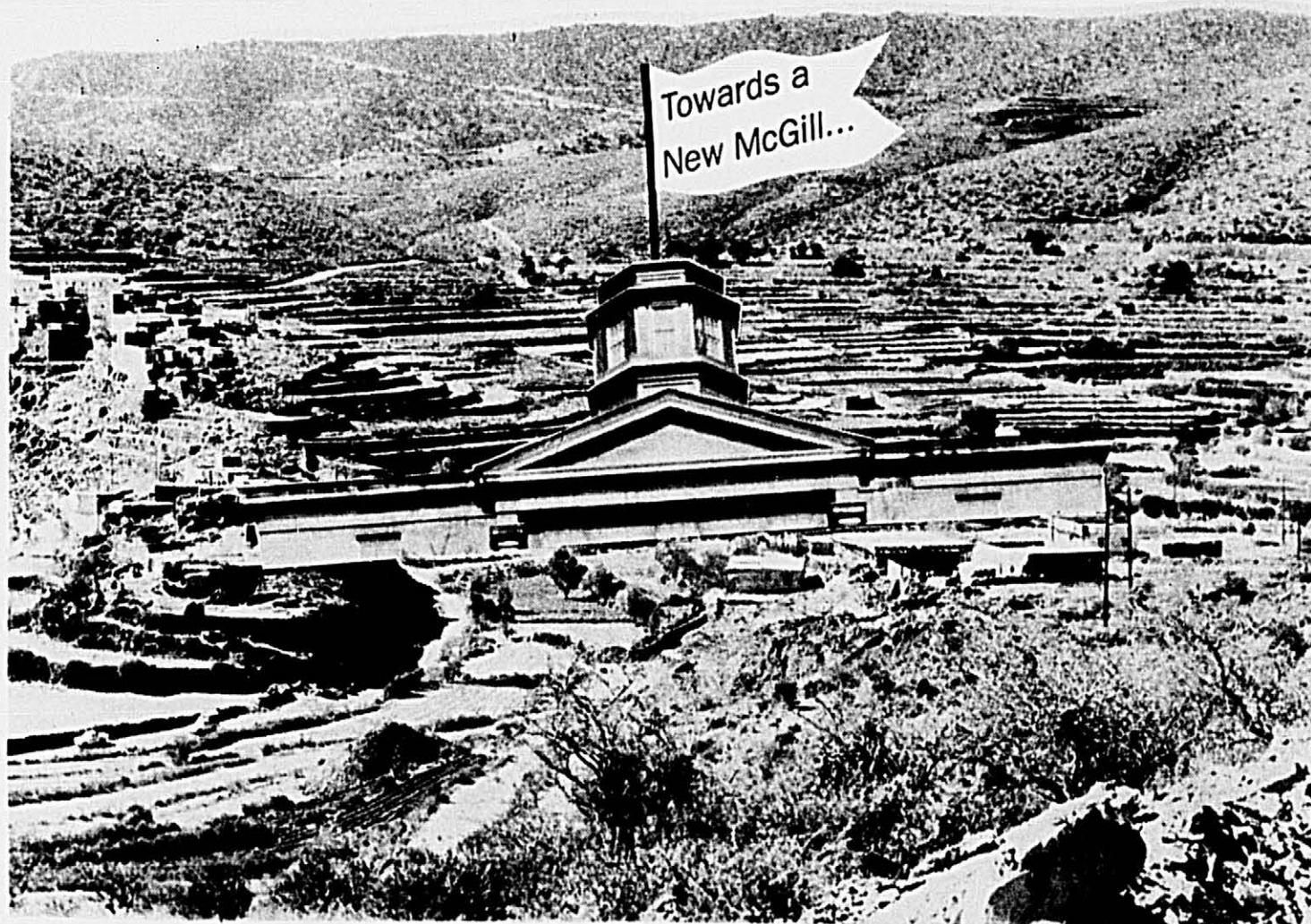
of 25 to 20.

The proposal had called for the cancellation of classes in order to hold a campus-wide discussion on the future of McGill — a discussion much needed since Principal Bernard Shapiro announced that McGill must change to survive.

This new chance for student input was one of the main reasons that the VP University Affairs of the undergraduate Students' Society, Don McGowan, spoke out and voted in favour of the proposed Estates General.

"The average professor, staff member, and student

continued on page 17



The McGill Daily

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McGill Daily

User's Guide to

Called everything from a "tabloid rag" to the "best student press in Canada", *The McGill Daily* has been giving people something to talk about since 1911.

Since Stephen Leacock started the *Daily* at the turn of the last century, the paper has undergone as many changes as society itself. For 85 years now, the paper has been coming out without fail, through conservative phases when young reporters sought to cover "just the facts"; through more radical times when every word was a political plight.

Now, the *Daily* finds itself smack in the second half of the '90s. In its present incarnation, the paper aspires to be a stimulating voice on cultural and political issues, using its unique history and mandate to inform, and hopefully enrich, our readers with readable, thought-provoking and intelligent stories.

Although structural aspects of the *Daily* have changed over the years, its mandate has remained the same since the 1960s. That is, to provide a constructive forum for information, especially about groups or individuals often not heard of or from. Essentially, the *Daily's* purpose is to give students a platform for challenging the accepted "truths" of the day, on issues both local and global. (See the Statement of Principles.)

Throughout the school year, all of this happens three times a week. Monday is the news issue, Tuesday is the *Daily français*, and Thursday is the culture issue.

So whatever people say about the *Daily*, the important thing is it's here to stay, and will continue to add its critical voice to the cultural and political landscape of this University.

THE DAILY PUBLICATIONS SOCIETY

As soon as you pay your student fees, you automatically become a member of the Daily Publications Society (DPS). The DPS is a non-profit, financially autonomous body which

earns its keep through advertising revenue and student fees.

Financial decisions for the DPS are made by its nine-per-

tors alike have one vote each. Decisions must be approved by the majority of staff members present. Because the *Daily* is a democratic organi-

sation, editors have no more voting power than any other staff member, and therefore cannot make policy decisions without staff.

Each semester, the *Daily* holds a meeting to

introduce would-be-Dailyites to how the paper works. But throughout the year, newcomers are always welcome. If you are at all interested in writing, taking photos, creating graphics, doing layout or helping to edit, please come on down and speak with us.

THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Each spring, the *Daily* staff elects a new editorial board.

The editorial board meets regularly to work out the details of production, discuss editorial direction and performance, plan for upcoming issues and discuss the performance of the paper in general.

Questions about the editorial board can be directed to Idella Sturino in the *Daily* office at any time.

NEWS

When reading the *Daily*, you may notice that news is covered in many different ways. You'll find news stories, briefs and in-depth investigative features. You may also notice that our news coverage touches on municipal, provincial, national and international affairs, as well as university and campus politics.

Within this coverage, the *Daily* news department tries to

ensure that racial, women's, aboriginal, queer and other issues are addressed.

Anyone interested in writing for the news department should come down to our office and speak with Anup Grewal, Andrea Mason or Zachary Schwartz.

FEATURES

Feature articles are something that you'll find throughout the *Daily*, in both the culture and news issues. They are meant to dig deeper than other articles do, and provide a wider scope of issues both regional and international, cultural and political. If you're interested in in-depth, investigative pieces that allow for more of a glimpse of the larger picture, then go find Sonia Verma at the *Daily*.

CULTURE

It can be argued that culture cannot be really, truly, completely defined. Equally elusive in definition, *The McGill Daily Culture* is like a laid-back younger sibling of

tainment and information. Not only does the Culture edition describe what's happening, it also strives to examine the social context in which things happen.

If you are interested in contributing to the Culture department, come to the *Daily* office and ask for Kevin Siu, Meredith Cohen and/or Mike Cullen.

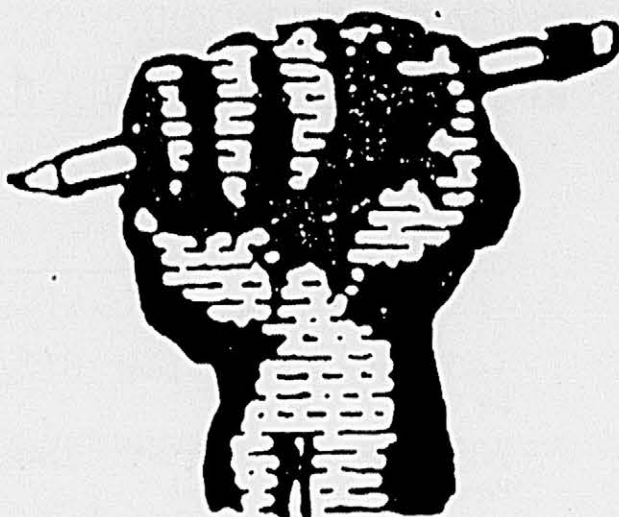
PHOTOGRAPHY

The *Daily* has long believed that pictures are just as important to a newspaper as words. Photographs which accompany articles, or sometimes just speak for themselves, are found in both our news and culture issues.

People interested in taking photos or learning how to take photos should speak with David Ryther or Lucy Atkinson.

LAYOUT AND DESIGN/GRAPHICS

Although the *Daily* continues to make use of new technologies in its production, it still

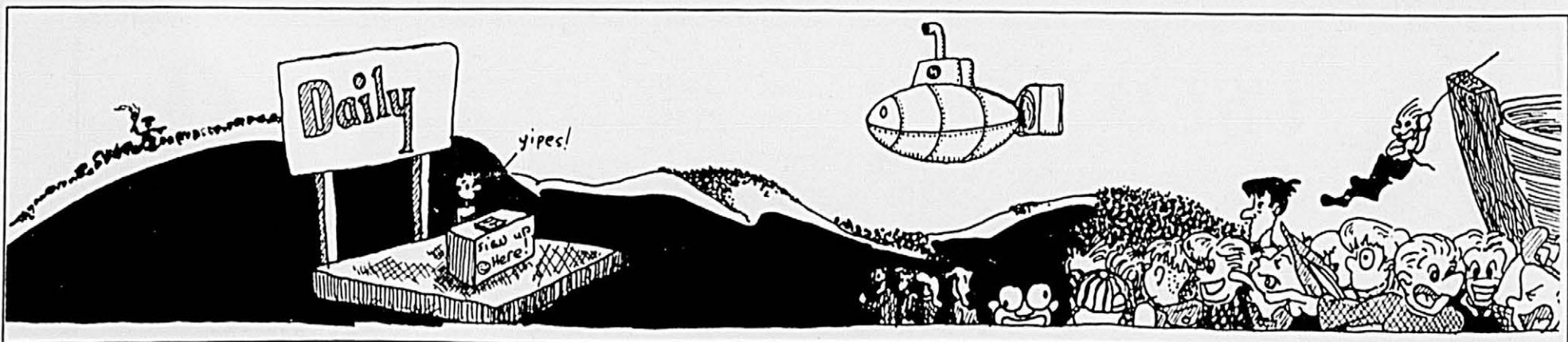


the News edition.

Covering issues and events on campus, in Montréal, in Canada and internationally, *The McGill Daily Culture* is a virtual cornucopia of ideas, movements, opinions, enter-

relies on real live people in all stages of its production to layout, draw graphics or cartoons, or contribute illustrations.

Those who know a lot about computers, want to learn, or



The McGill Daily

The McGill Daily



but the world of information on the Internet as well.

Anyone interested in learning how to surf the net to help research stories and explore new ideas is welcome to approach Robin too.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor are often the most popular part of the paper, and the *Daily* receives many of them. Indeed, they provide an important forum where readers can express their opinions on the content of the *Daily*, as well as other issues of relevance to them.

The *Daily* prints every letter it receives from DPS members, as long as it is not racist, sexist, homophobic, libelous or slanderous.

Letters must be signed and under 300 words long.

HYDE PARKS.

Hyde Parks are another forum, aside from contributing articles, for students to express their opinions, concerns, or perspectives in the *Daily*. Named after the famous soap

Hyde Park with an editor rather than just dropping it off.

COMMENTS, EDITORIALS

The *Daily* often publishes both comments and editorials, which mean different things according to our structure.

Both are opinion pieces written by staff members. But comments are the opinion of only those staff members which sign them, whereas editorials are mandated and endorsed by the entire *Daily* staff. Editorials can only be passed at our weekly staff meetings.

NOTES FROM BELOW

Notes From Below are sort of like what you're reading right now. Whenever the *Daily* staff makes an announcement in the paper about meetings or its operations, it's called a "Note from Below." Watch for them throughout the year, usually on the editorial page.

EVENTS

Want to know what's on? Check out the *Daily's* Events listings, which appear in every issue we print. The Events listings are free and allow groups and individuals from both McGill and its surrounding communities to publicise activities.

If you'd like to submit an event listing, please keep it short and to the point (date, time, place, contact number for more information.) Event listings can be dropped off at the *Daily* office by 17h the day before an issue hits the stands.



DAILY FILE PHOTO BY DEREK FUNG

box speech venue in London, Hyde Parks can be up to 500 words, and provide an opportunity for more in-depth opinions than do letters to the editor.

Unlike letters to the editor, the *Daily* does not guarantee that it will print every Hyde Park it receives. It is a good idea to discuss your

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF THE MCGILL DAILY

2.1 The fundamental goal of *The McGill Daily* shall be to serve as a critical and constructive forum for the exchange of ideas and information about McGill University and related communities.

2.2 Within this optic, the staff of the *Daily* recognises that all events and issues are inherently political, involving relations of social and economic power. Further, we recognise that at present power is unevenly distributed, especially (but not solely) on the basis of gender, age, social class, race, sexuality, religion, disability and cultural identity.

We also recognise that

keeping silent about this situation helps to perpetuate inequality.

To help correct these inequities, to the best of its staff's abilities, the *Daily* should depict and analyse power relations accurately in its coverage.

2.3 As an autonomous student newspaper, relatively free from commercial and other controls, the *Daily* can best serve its purposes by examining issues and events most media ignore.

In particular, it should deal with the role post-secondary education plays in constructing and maintaining the current order. It should also as-

sist students and other groups working for change, within a critical framework, with the aim of empowering and giving a voice to individuals and communities marginalised on the basis of the criteria mentioned in section 2.2.

The *Daily's* methods should be both educative and active, as determined democratically by its staff.

2.4 Finally, we recognize that the *Daily* must remain accessible to the student community it comes from, and should abide by an ethic of fairness (as defined in the *Daily's* Code of Ethics) while maintaining its autonomy.



ONGOING

- The Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom (4100 Sherbrooke St. West) is offering a breast cancer support group for Jewish women from September 9 to November 11. Enrollment is limited to 6-12 participants and costs \$75 for eight sessions. For more information or to register, call Rabbi's secretary at 937-3575.

- Montréal artist Robert J. Vaujeois shows his water-colour art at Café Le Bean

(3469 Parc Ave.) between 10h-22h until August 30.

- Tel-Aide, a 24-hour, free telephone listening service for people in distress, is looking for volunteers. For more information, call 935-1105.

- The Montréal Sexual Assault Centre is currently recruiting concerned, bilingual women interested in becoming volunteers for its 24-hour crisis line. The training session will take place between September 20-29. For more information, call 934-4504 or 934-0354, ext. 452.

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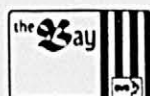
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**Nos éditions subséquentes ne seront pas publiées en encart !
Surveillez l'arrivée de notre prochain numéro,
le mardi 9 septembre**

L'information continue, nous aussi !

La rédaction nouvelles

Bianca Robichaud
et Loïc Bernard

C'est après un long congé estival empli de nuages et de pluie que la communauté mcgilloise refait son apparition. La nostalgie des Daiquiri aux fraises pris en après-midi et les barbecues du samedi, ne peut que nous faire regretter ces beaux moments passés.

Il ne nous reste plus qu'à attendre avec impatience le congé des fêtes et d'espérer que notre « stock » de beurre d'arachide ne s'épuise pas trop rapidement.

C'est donc avec un foie en piteux état et des souvenirs à faire rougir, que le corps étudiantin retrouve sans grand plaisir le stress et la routine de notre chère université.

La section nouvelle du McGill Daily français tentera par tous les moyens de vous faire oublier cette pénible transition et de vous divertir durant ces longs moments de mélancolies.

Nous traiterons notamment de l'éducation qui sera cette année un des sujets centraux de

la section nouvelles du McGill Daily français. Que ce soit au niveau même de l'université avec le « Towards a new McGill » proposé par notre principal M. Shapiro, ou encore les changements qui nous seront sûrement imposés par le gouvernement provincial, ce sujet ne laissera personne indifférent.

En tant que rédacteurs pour la section nouvelle, notre travail consistera principalement à vous informer de tous ces changements qui nous guettent et à essayer de donner la parole à ceux et celles qui souvent en sont privé-es. La section nouvelle ne fera pas dans le sensationnel mais vous promet de traiter des sujets qui vous touchent et qui sauront vous intéresser. La rédaction nouvelle tentera également de soulever des polémiques et de jeter un regard nouveau sur les divers enjeux politiques.

Sur ce, nous vous souhaitons un bon semestre et espérons fortement vous compter parmi notre lectorat tout au cours de cette nouvelle année scolaire.

McGill Daily français

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Le McGill Daily français

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Le Retour du moustique

La rédaction en chef

Emmanuelle Latraverse
Marc Antoine Godin

Le *McGill Daily français* est comme le moustique : il revient toujours à l'automne. Que ce soit pour piquer votre curiosité ou donner des ailes à votre session, notre publication hebdomadaire compte devenir le pesticide à votre ennui du midi ou du retour en autobus.

Cette année, le *Daily français* compte mordre mieux que jamais. Il ne mordra pas à tort et à travers, comme un propagandiste obstiné, mais saura croquer tout ce qu'il y a de pertinent à se mettre sous la dent.

En effet, l'objectif de notre rédaction est de faire du *McGill Daily français* un journal plus polémique, qui soulève des débats et pose des questions en s'éloignant des discours traditionnels de la presse ou de la classe politique. Il ne s'agit pas ici, sous l'aspect d'un militantisme exagéré, de défendre la veuve et l'orphelin; mais plutôt de porter à votre attention des gens et des événements ignorés par les médias de masse.

**Tout
ce que vous avez
toujours voulu
savoir sur le *Daily
français* mais
n'avez jamais
OSÉ
demander :**

- Oui, le *Daily français* est toujours publié en français.

- Il est publié tous les mardis avant 9 heures le matin.

- La date de tombée des articles, lettres ou commentaires est le lundi à 15 heures.

- Le *Daily français* est tiré à 11 000 exemplaires.

- Il est publié depuis 1977.

- Les réunions de l'équipe ont lieu le mardi à 16 heures 30

- Il a une politique éditoriale distincte de celles de l'édition anglaise. Ce n'est donc pas la même équipe de rédaction, ni le même caractère général.

- Non, aucune expérience n'est requise pour pouvoir participer à quelque étape de sa production.

- Oui, un certain enthousiasme est de mise !

- Le *Daily français* est à McGill ce que le Québec est au Canada. Ha ! Ha ! Ha ! Ha !

La raison d'être du *McGill Daily français*, son âme véritable, réside dans sa Déclaration de principes (dont vous trouverez retranscription au bas de cette page). Selon nous, les médias à grand tirage, autant écrits qu'électroniques, détiennent, par la force des choses, le monopole de l'information sociale et politique. Toutefois, il ne doit pas nécessairement en être ainsi. Dans cette perspective, le *Daily français* cherche à exprimer une nouvelle voix au chapitre et à offrir un regard nouveau sur les événements qui façonnent notre société.

De plus, plusieurs choses sont délibérément occultées par ces médias. C'est notre rôle de les mettre en lumière. Qu'il s'agisse de culture avant-gardiste, de polémiques étudiantes ou de droits de la personne, une myriade

de sujets tant sociaux que culturels ou politiques se retrouvera pour cette raison dans nos pages.

Contrairement à l'ex Premier Ministre Jean Lesage, nous ne prétendons pas être « en possession tranquille de la vérité ». Tout Jojo Savard que nous souhaitons être, nous n'avons malheureusement pas de réponse-miracle au débat linguistique ou à la commercialisation des Jeux Olympiques. Devant ce triste (!) constat, nous poserons donc beaucoup plus de questions que nous n'offrirons de réponses.

Ambitieux, certes nous le sommes... Et après ? Vous êtes quand même cinq mille à pouvoir y mettre l'épaule à la roue !

Le *Daily français* a une âme; mais il possède également une personnalité, la-

quelle change un peu chaque année au gré de la cuvée nouvelle de collaborateurs et collaboratrices qui se joint à notre équipe d'irréductibles. Le *Daily français*, c'est un peu comme un village gaulois, quoi !

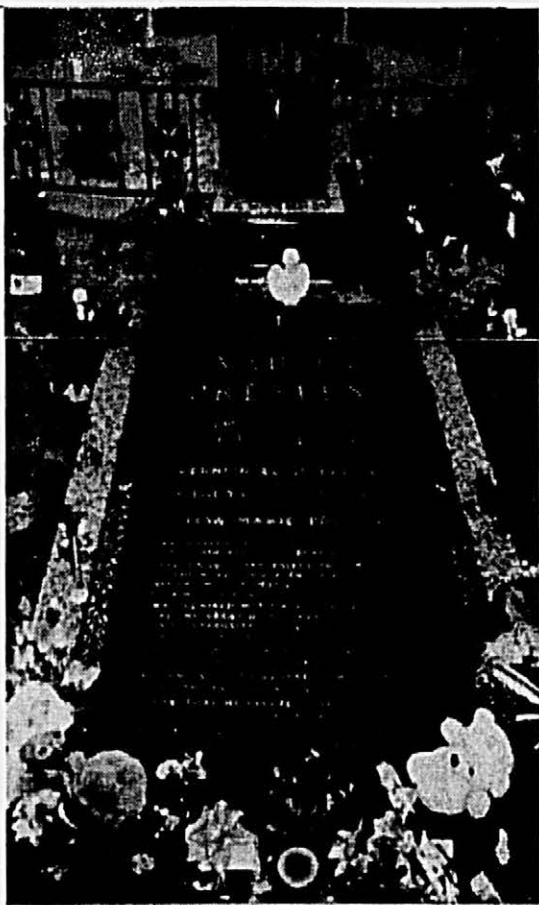
Puisque nous sommes six rédacteurs et rédactrices, il y en a pour tous les goûts. Que vous soyez gêné, timide, agressif, ambitieux, enjoué, comique, jeune, vieux, petit, grand, gros ou végétarien, vous serez certain de trouver rédacteur à votre pied ! Par ailleurs, les enthousiastes du journalisme ne sont pas les seuls qui soient les bienvenus. Nous cherchons aussi des correcteurs et correctrices de français (car personne n'est infailible), des spécialistes (ou pas) de la mise en page, des photographes... Bref, quiconque voulant bien participer à la production du journal.

Pour voler et ainsi pouvoir viser et piquer, le moustique a besoin d'ailes. Venez donc les ailes du *Daily français* cette année et joignez vous à notre première session d'information, mardi le 3 septembre à 16 heures au local B-03 du Centre Universitaire.

Courrier

Nous vous invitons cordialement à nous envoyer tout le courrier non-électronique que vous voudrez. Que ce soit pour nous féliciter, nous critiquer, passer quelque commentaire que ce soit ou pour nous faire des suggestions de couverture ou d'analyse... Bon, pour rendre ça simple : si vous avez quelque chose à nous dire, écrivez nous !!!

Ne soyez pas gênés, car la gêne, c'est prouvé, ça donne de l'urticaire.



La police de Trois-Rivières a entrepris d'ouvrir ce cercueil après qu'une plainte de la famille du défunt ait laissé croire à un meurtre plutôt qu'à un suicide.

La Déclaration de principes du *McGill Daily*

2.1) Le but fondamental du *McGill Daily* doit être de servir de forum critique et constructif pour l'échange d'idées et d'informations concernant l'Université McGill et les communautés qui lui sont reliées.

2.2) En ce sens, le personnel du *McGill Daily* reconnaît que tous les événements et tous les sujets sont fondamentalement politiques, impliquant des relations de pouvoirs économiques et sociaux. De plus, nous reconnaissons que le pouvoir est présentement inégalement distribué, à cause notamment de discriminations fondées sur le sexe, l'âge, la classe sociale, la race, l'orientation sexuelle, les handicaps et l'identité culturelle.

2.3) En tant que journal étudiant autonome et relativement libre d'intérêts commerciaux, le *McGill Daily* peut remplir ses objectifs en examinant des sujets et événements que les médias de masse ignorent.

Le *McGill Daily* devrait tout particulièrement traiter du rôle de l'éducation post-secondaire dans la construction et le maintien de l'ordre actuel. Il devrait également aider les étudiants (es) et les autres groupes à travailler pour le changement, dans un contexte critique, dans le but de donner voix et pouvoir aux individus et aux communautés marginalisés sur la base des critères mentionnés au paragraphe 2.2.

Les méthodes du *McGill Daily* devront être éducatives et actives, telles que déterminées démocratiquement par son personnel.

2.4) Finalement, nous reconnaissons que le *McGill Daily* doit demeurer accessible à la communauté étudiante de laquelle il provient. Il doit également se conformer à une éthique d'équité (tel que défini par le Code d'éthique) tout en maintenant son autonomie.

La Culture au grand jour

La rédaction culture

Magali Boisier
et Louma Atallah

De toutes les bouches bien-pensantes on entend dire que la culture part à la dérive, que moins en moins de gens s'y intéressent, qu'elle n'est plus qu'un concept flou, une statistique gouvernementale. Encore présente chez de nombreux universitaires, la peur d'être cultivé témoigne d'une génération sclérosée qui ne voit pas à ses affaires.

Ébranler cette attitude

lymphatique, voilà la contribution que compte apporter la section culturelle aux pages du *Daily Français*. Notre rubrique s'engage à vous donner chaque semaine un supplément nutritif aux salades que l'on vous sert généralement. Nous nous appliquerons à mettre en lumière des événements, des gens et des idées habituellement occultés par les médias de masse mais tout en les traitant de façon accessible et intéressante. N'ayez

crainte : nous ne vous enverrons pas à Tombouctou voir une exposition sur le macramé dans l'art précambrien.

Il y a des choses dont on ne parlera pas car, bien honnêtement, elles méritent de rester dans l'ombre. Toutefois tout un pan de la culture reste encore à explorer. Nous tenterons avec vous d'ouvrir la porte à la découverte et à l'inusité. Il ne s'agit pas pour nous de partir à la recherche systématique de nouveaux talents

mais plutôt de proposer un angle nouveau pour analyser l'art. C'est donc avec une vision nouvelle que nous regarderons des phénomènes culturels souvent insoupçonnés... et qui valent la peine d'être connus.

Nous mettrons l'accent sur la culture de pointe, celle qui devrait normalement intéresser une « élite » universitaire. Elle se présentera sous la forme d'entrevues, d'enquêtes, de dossiers et de compte-rendus

critiques. Notre section culture veut susciter le débat et présenter des aspects de l'art de façon plus approfondie qu'à l'habitude.

Mieux vaut vous avertir d'avance : ceux qui attendent notre critique du dernier Michel Tremblay seront déçus. Par contre, ceux qui, comme nous, croient que la culture dépasse Entertainment Tonight et le cahier week-end du Journal de Montréal, ont beaucoup de bonne lecture en perspective !

Bonne session !

Helios, revue de la fin du millénaire

Rayonner dans trois langues

Marc Antoine Godin

Les publications littéraires sont nombreuses à Montréal mais, trop souvent, elles se noient dans la mer de leurs semblables. À ce chapitre, une nouvelle arrivante tente de faire son nid avec un concept tout à fait nouveau. Il s'agit de *Helios*, un magazine à haute teneur en poésie qui publie des textes en trois langues. En effet, leurs collaborateurs écrivent en français, en espagnol et en anglais. Tout cela sous le même couvert !

Helios a été créé dans une perspective éminemment poétique. On y trouve de tout : des articles, des nouvelles, des contes, des essais, mais aussi des photos et des dessins. Le tout rassemble une atmosphère et une sensibilité onirique et poétique.

L'un des initiateurs de ce projet aussi original qu'ambitieux est Omar Alexis Ramos, un jeune écrivain considéré au Mexique comme un des plus brillants de sa génération. Immigré au Québec il y a plus d'un an, il s'est lancé dans la création de cette revue poétique afin de poursuivre ses exercices de la plume.

« On recherche pour *Helios* un certain niveau de qualité, explique M. Ramos. Souvent la bonne intention ne suffit pas ! Le fait que l'on publie en trois langues, cela nous permet d'atteindre cette qualité sous trois types de poésie différents. Mais on recherche avant tout une attitude ouverte, en lutte contre les nationalismes, qui permet aux différentes personnes de

découvrir une nouvelle langue. »

En effet, le caractère polyglotte de la revue permet d'étendre le tirage à un lectorat beaucoup plus nombreux. Le premier numéro, qu'on avait prudemment tiré à 200 exemplaires gratuits, a été distribué en une seule semaine !

Curieusement, selon les dires d'Omar Alexis Ramos, la production du premier numéro s'est faite assez facilement. L'équipe de *Helios* est allée chercher son financement à l'aide d'une fête organisée au restaurant Nahualt, fête à laquelle ont collaboré 32 artistes et qui a attiré plus de 200 personnes. « Notre premier numéro a quand même été créé de façon naïve. On payait vraiment n'importe quoi. Par exemple, on a payé de nos poches la mise en page de cette édition. On a tout fait nous-mêmes », rappelle M. Ramos.

Le succès de ce numéro pilote l'a incité à aller plus loin. Une seconde parution est prévue pour octobre ou novembre, « si tout va bien ». Les concepteurs de *Helios* reprennent donc la formule des fêtes et comptent également produire à chaque mois un événement culturel destiné à la subvention du magazine : expositions de photos ou de peintures, prestations musicales live, etc. Avec de telles soirées, et avec un prix de vente fixé à un ou deux dollars, Omar Alexis Ramos et ses acolytes comptent recueillir suffisamment de fonds pour tirer 1000 exemplaires du second *Helios*.

Parallèlement à la revue, les créateurs de *Helios* travaillent à mettre sur pied une maison de production artistique multiforme qui s'impliquerait dans les milieux défavorisés. Cet organisme sans but lucratif, baptisé Axototl Productions, n'a pas encore d'orientation bien définie, mais c'est déjà sous



cette bannière qu'*Helios* organise ses levées de fonds.

À la base d'Axototl Productions, Omar Ramos est secondé par Marie-Christine Godin et Eric Salinas. Et depuis le mois de mai, Axototl peut également compter sur Gerardo Nollel pour l'organisation des soirées-bénéfices et la recherche de bon matériel littéraire.

Avec une équipe solide qui croit en son projet, *Helios* pourrait bien devenir un jour un fer de lance des librairies alternatives. « Et c'est sûr que plus on a de collaborateurs, mieux les choses vont aller », conclut Omar Alexis Ramos. Pour les amateurs de poésie et ceux que le charme latin envoûte...

Helios, 33 Mozart O., Montréal PQ, H2S 1C1

proportionnel à ma taille. On me dit de très belle apparence.

GROUPE mixte recherche désespérément partenaires pour s'adonner aux plaisirs de la plume, de l'efface et du graphisme. Pas besoin d'avoir d'expérience pour en

vivre de nouvelles. Venez voir le *Daily Français* pour une première relation orale à 17h00 au local B-03 de l'édifice Shatner. À la porte où ça crie, vous y êtes.

PREMIER Ministre en mal de fortes sensations recherche Sussex.

Voici la liste des émissions francophones et bilingues sur les ondes de

KUT 90.3 FM

émissions francophones

Souverains Anonymes	Lundi 14h00-15h00
Ballades des Furies	Lundi 19h00-20h00
Entre parenthèses	Mardi 17h00-18h00
Carrefours	Mercredi 14h00-15h00
Le lendemain de la veille	Jeudi 7h00-9h00

émissions bilingues

Amandala	Mercredi 19h00-20h00
Café	Jeudi 18h30-19h00
Samedi midi	Samedi 10h30-14h00

Projet de banque alimentaire étudiante

La crème tourne

Bianca Robichaud

Le Centre d'Aide et de Référence Étudiante de Montréal (CAREM), fait présentement face à de sérieuses difficultés. Son conseil d'administration, qui était constitué de représentants des quatre associations universitaires montréalaises, s'est officiellement dissous au cours de la dernière semaine.

Ce centre d'entraide étudiante, qui a pour but de fournir un support alimentaire aux plus démunis, ne semble pas être destiné à un avenir fructueux. Mis de l'avant l'année dernière par un étudiant à la maîtrise en sociologie de l'Université de Montréal, M. Bakary Diallo, ce projet de banque alimentaire n'a pu être mené à bien.

Le problème majeur semble se situer au sein même du conseil d'administration qui ne semble pas être en accord avec les démarches entreprises jusqu'à présent par le responsable du projet, M. Diallo. Selon les dires de Mme Chantal DaSilva, responsable des affaires externes de l'Université McGill, « Le projet manque totalement d'organisation et il est, par ce fait impossible pour une association étudiante de s'impliquer plus concrètement. »

Il faut souligner que

l'Association des Étudiants et Étudiantes de l'Université McGill (AUM) n'avait cependant pas approuvé officiellement ce projet. Seule la responsable des affaires extérieures avait consenti à étudier ce dossier. « Un autre problème avec M. Diallo est qu'il s'est permis d'utiliser le logo des diverses Universités sans leur en demander la permission. Cela me met dans une position délicate » explique cette dernière.

Les trois autres associations étudiantes, dont la FAECUM de l'Université de Montréal, la CSU de l'Université Concordia et l'AGEsshalUQAM de l'Université du Québec à Montréal, ont fait savoir qu'ils se retireraient de ce projet en raison du manque d'organisation et de démocratie qu'a fait preuve jusqu'à présent M. Bakary Diallo.

Le responsable des affaires externes de l'AGEsshalUQAM, M. Francis Côté, accuse même M. Diallo d'avoir falsifié un procès verbal et reproche à ce dernier d'avoir « fait preuve à plusieurs reprises d'autocratie. »

« Un autre problème que nous avons avec M. Diallo, explique Mme DaSilva, s'est qu'il se borne à faire de ce projet un projet national et non régional. Ses désirs dépassent largement nos possibilités. Nous voudrions aider les étudiants et étudiantes sur plusieurs niveaux, mais il faut aussi que nous trouvions l'argent et ce

sans le faire sur le dos de la population étudiante »

M. Francis Côté enchaîne dans ce même ordre d'idée en qualifiant le projet de M. Diallo de YMCA. « Il était prêt à ouvrir en plus de sa banque alimentaire, une banque de vêtements et offrir la possibilité aux jeunes artistes de se faire connaître », explique-t-il.

M. Diallo se dit confus de toutes ces accusations qui sont portées sur lui et ne demande qu'à s'expliquer dans une réunion réunissant tous les intervenants.

Il semble cependant qu'une entente ne soit plus possible entre les partis puisque les associations étudiantes entendent déjà d'établir un projet similaire au CAREM dans laquelle elles auraient tout pouvoir de décision. « Nous voulons un projet conçu par les universitaires et pour les universitaires », affirme M. Francis Côté.

Un problème pourrait cependant survenir puisque M. Diallo qui se sent blâmé dans cette histoire, affirme qu'une telle tentative serait impossible légalement. Selon ses dires qui sont démentis par M. Côté, son projet est déjà enregistré en toute légalité et ce que les associations universitaires montréalaises s'apprentent à faire ne peut être qualifié que de plagiat. « C'est mon droit de vouloir protéger mon projet », explique M. Diallo.

Humeurs de l'Ouest

Pénard dans ses pénates

Magali Boisier

La clé sous la porte, le cœur léger, on entame avec joie les longs mois d'été. Rien ne semble plus attrayant maintenant que les coups de soleil, les lourdes valises et la perspectives de nuits blanches inoubliables. Un heureux pincement au cœur et une fébrile agitation de l'esprit m'annoncent déjà ce qui, à la rentrée, fera palpiter mes amis d'envie et d'admiration.

Ainsi lorsque l'avion décolle de Mirabel avec deux heures de retard, je reste calme. Je ne fronce pas même le sourcil lorsque le douanier entreprend, à cinq heures du matin, de fouiller ma valise. Il fait son boulot. L'été de ma vie est là, au bout du couloir. Ainsi en ai-je décidée : l'Européenne en moi compte faire contre toute mauvaise fortune bon cœur.

La vie s'annonce légère et belle. Enfin... elle l'aurait pu l'être si le soleil avait été au rendez-vous ! Cet été, dans le Vieux Continent, les moustiques se sont montrés particulièrement friands des touristes de mon espèce. Assaillie par une armada d'insectes en tous genres, et heureuse bénéficiaire d'une angine carabinée au début du mois de juillet, il ne m'est plus resté un instant pour m'occuper des mecs en maillot de bain. D'autant plus que mon look norvégien nez-qui-pèle, vous le devinez bien, n'a pas fait fureur dans les discos.

Face aux multiples soucis d'organisation et aux déboires financiers de mon voyage, devant l'embarras du choix ou plutôt l'absence de destination de rêve, peut-être valait-il mieux me

laisser bercer par le doux ronronnement d'un climatiseur de bureau...

Remarquez, cette solution ne s'est pas montrée plus enviable. Cantonnée à la distribution du courrier, habituée à discuter de longues heures avec la photocopieuse en panne, le dur monde du travail m'est apparue dans toute la splendeur de son aridité. Enrichissement personnel ? Inexistant. Enrichissement monétaire ? Un néant, aussi inconséquent que celui des souvenirs de vacances. La joie d'entrer dans la « cour des grands » a fait place à la désillusion la plus totale.

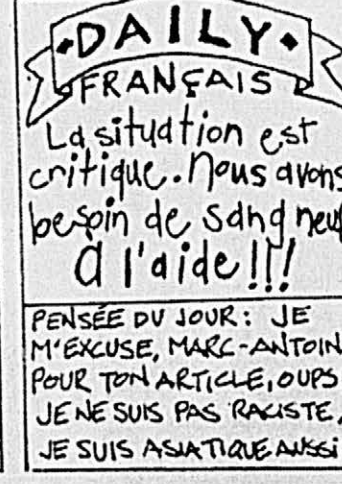
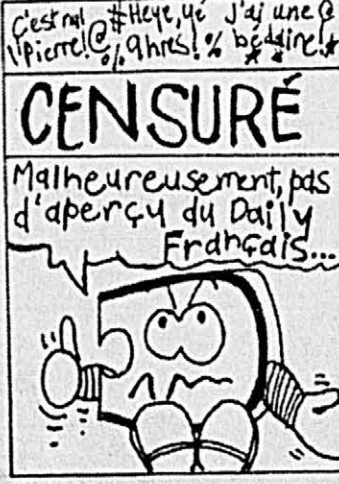
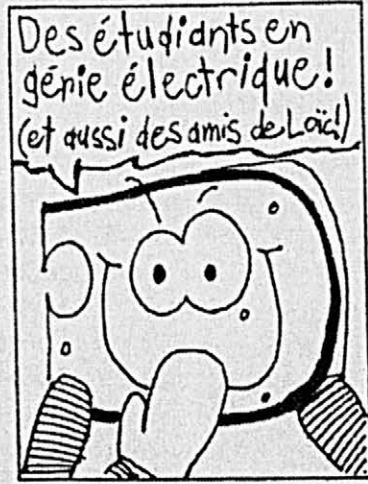
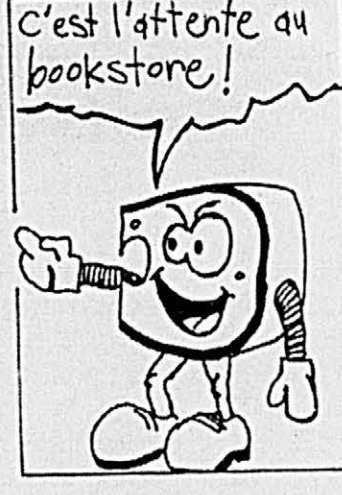
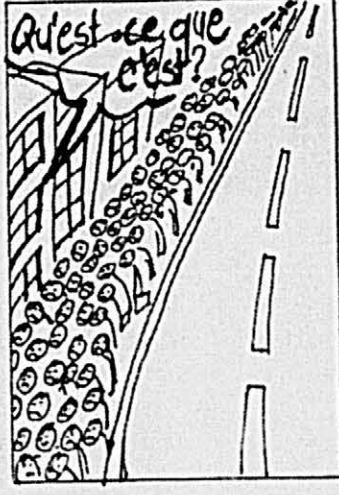
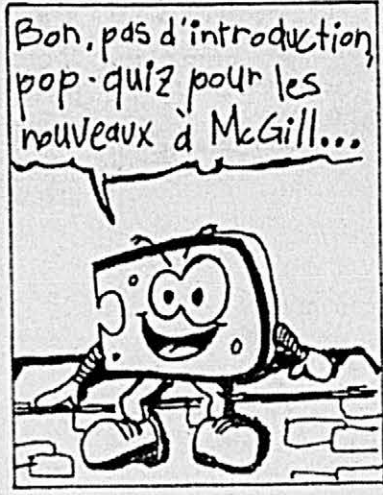
Ballottée de service en service, au gré des mouvances administratives, stressée par les querelles intestines, j'ai dû déployer des trésors d'ingéniosité pour déjouer les commérages de mes voisines de palier. J'ai pu néanmoins utiliser le téléphone abondamment et informer mes connaissances, curieusement silencieuses quand j'y repense, des « responsabilités importantes que j'occupais au sein d'une compagnie fort réputée ». Toutefois ni cette opportunité, ni le matériel scolaire insidieusement dérobé pour l'année qui vient, n'ont pu me convaincre de prolonger mon séjour dans cette administration en papier.

Quant au repos dans la demeure familiale, je savais par expérience que ce serait fossilisant au possible. Non, vraiment, le retour à Montréal restait véritablement le seul repli salvateur. Quand l'odeur alléchante des pâtes quotidiennes flotte déjà dans vos souvenirs et que vos rêves se peuplent de paresseux diners au Peel Pub... Pizza, sauce barbecue, ailes de poulet à volonté, bière ou coca au choix !

À Montréal, les étudiants sont rois, peut importe leurs goûts ou leurs budgets. Votre coloc préfère les Grands Ballets à l'Opéra ? Qu'à cela ne tienne, vous irez voir les Canadiens au Centre Molson pour un peu moins cher.

La voie est libre. Plus de patron envahissant ou de mère désespérée, il n'y aura que moi. Ce sera grasses matinées par-dessus réunions entre copains. Montréal, c'est la belle vie. Vivifiante à -30 degrés, certes, mais les endroits chauds ne manquent pas à partir de onze heures du soir. Sainte-Catherine, Saint-Laurent, doux noms évocateurs ! Des boîtes endiablées aux restos de quartiers, de la copine d'un soir à l'ami d'une année, je sais que je ne pourrai pas m'ennuyer.

Aussi quand l'avion décolle de Charles-de-Gaulle avec deux heures de retard, je reste calme. Je ne fronce pas même le sourcil quand le douanier entreprend, à cinq heures du matin, de fouiller ma valise...



Les ressources gauloises

Anne Caporal
Emmanuelle Latraverse
et Pascale Anglade

McGill a beau être un des bastions de l'« anglophonie » québécoise, les étudiants francophones ont quand même réussi à s'y tailler une place... de choix !

On peut être francophone à McGill, s'intégrer au milieu étudiant et réussir à ne pas « perdre son français », d'une part; et à profiter des opportunités qui s'offrent à la communauté francophone, d'autre part. Il ne s'agit pas ici de partir en guerre contre les anglais mais tout simplement de profiter d'une situation spéciale et privilégiée. Ainsi, pour vous éviter de nombreux voyages sans fin entre les pavillons Shatner, Powell et James, nous vous avons concocté ce petit guide qui vous épargnera sans doute de nombreux maux de tête.

La commissaire francophone

Depuis le mois de janvier 1995, un poste de commissaire francophone a été créé au sein de l'Association étudiante de l'Université McGill. Les francophones constituant 19 % de la population mcgilloise, l'AEUM tentait ainsi de fournir une certaine représentation francophone au sein de son caucus. Mais ne vous leurrez pas : la commissaire francophone n'a pas droit de vote aux réunions de l'AEUM, ce n'est qu'un poste consultatif.

La commissaire francophone pour l'année 1996-1997 est Elizabeth Gomerey et son rôle est de s'assurer que les droits des francophones sont respectés à McGill, et ainsi fournir conseil et assistance à tout francophone se sentant lésé. Vous pouvez rejoindre Elizabeth Gomerey en laissant un message auprès de Don McGowan, V.-P. Affaires Externes de l'AEUM au 398-6800.

Les clubs et associations

Caucus francophone : Cette association est le lien officiel entre la communauté francophone et l'AEUM. Le Caucus travaillera donc de paire avec Elizabeth Gomerey. Ensemble, ils mettront sur pied des projets visant à assurer une meilleure implication des francophones dans la vie étudiante universitaire mcgilloise. Ce groupe a également pour but d'assurer la représentation des francophones auprès des instances supérieures de l'Université. Pour plus d'informations sur le Caucus francophone et ses activités,



vous pouvez leur laisser un message auprès de l'AEUM ou venir les rencontrer lors de la soirée des activités le 11 septembre prochain à 19 heures.

L'Association Rochambault : Fondé dans le but de favoriser l'intégration des nouveaux et nouvelles à l'Université McGill, ce club est une association d'anciens élèves du Lycée Rochambault de Washington DC. Bien que leurs activités regroupent principalement d'anciens élèves de ce lycée, tout le monde est bienvenu. On peut le rejoindre au bureau B-11 de l'édifice Shatner ou en téléphonant au 398-5280.

Activités culturelles

Sphère francophone : Le but principal

de la sphère francophone est de « promouvoir le français et la culture québécoise sur le campus en créant des occasions d'échange et de rapprochement entre les étudiants francophones et non-francophones de l'Université. » Nous n'avons malheureusement pas réussi à obtenir les coordonnées des membres de cette dernière.

Théâtre de la grenouille : Depuis déjà plus de sept ans, cette troupe de théâtre francophone monte des adaptations d'œuvres dramatiques de styles divers. Que vous soyez des adeptes de l'absurde ou du burlesque, vous êtes bienvenus et pouvez participer à toutes les étapes de

la production théâtrale, comme l'éclairage, la conception des décors, la publicité, le mise en scène ou le jeu ... Pour plus de renseignements concernant cette troupe et les façons de s'impliquer, venez rencontrer ses membres lors de la soirée des activités le 11 septembre prochain à 19 heures.

Médias

CKUT Radio McGill 90.3 FM : Que vous soyez intéressé à la musique classique, au rock ou au jazz, aux affaires publiques, à la littérature ou au théâtre, CKUT, la radio étudiante universitaire et communautaire mcgilloise a tout pour vous plaire. De plus, la programmation multilingue de CKUT permet tant aux

francophones qu'aux anglophones de s'impliquer au sein d'émissions bilingues ou dans leur langue maternelle. Vous trouverez d'ailleurs à la page 12 de notre édition un horaire des émissions bilingues et de langue française.

Pour plus d'informations au sujet de CKUT et de sa programmation, veuillez contacter Angelina Vaz, coordonatrice des émissions parlées, ou John Braithwaite, coordonateur des émissions musicales, au 398-6787. Vous pouvez également passer à leurs locaux situés au 3647 Université (coin avenue des Pins).

McGill Daily français : Vous semblez déjà nous connaître. Pour mieux nous apprivoiser et vous informer sur une participation à la production, n'hésitez pas à passer au local B-03 du Shatner ou venez à notre session d'information le mardi 3 septembre à 16 heures.

Droits des francophones à McGill

Tous les étudiants et étudiantes francophones avertis de McGill doivent être au courant de leurs droits universitaires. Les voici donc résumés en quelques points clés :

1. Tout travail écrit peut être remis en français

Cela inclut les examens, thèses, résumés de lecture, essais et devoirs. Quoique ce soit recommandable, si ce n'est que par courtoisie, il n'est pas obligatoire d'en avertir le professeur.

2. Droit de savoir qui corrige

Tout étudiant qui remet un travail, surtout en français, a le droit de savoir qui est responsable de la correction du dit travail si le professeur enseignant ne l'effectue pas lui-même.

3. Correction dans les mêmes délais

Tout travail remis en français doit être corrigé dans les mêmes délais qu'un travail remis en anglais.

4. Droit à un dictionnaire anglais-français

Tout étudiant francophone a droit à un dictionnaire anglais-français lors de la rédaction d'examens.

5. Droit d'être servi en français

Les services administratifs de l'Université McGill et de l'AEUM doivent être disponibles en français comme en anglais.

6. Droit de se défendre ou de poursuivre en français

En cas de litige avec l'Université McGill, tout étudiant a le droit d'être entendu en français; et ce, même si la présence d'un interprète est requise. Dans un tel cas, l'université en assumera les coûts.

7. Les non-droits

Hé oui, malgré tous ces droits il subsiste deux non-droits : celui d'exiger un questionnaire en français lors d'examens et celui de faire des présentations orales en français.

Cours en français

Voici la liste des cours offerts en français à McGill:

Tous les cours en:

* littérature française et québécoise;
* stylistique et traduction

* civilisation française et québécoise
Quelques cours en Sciences politiques:

160-226B : La vie politique québécoise. Prof Alain Gagnon

160-336A : Le Québec et le Canada. Prof Coulombe

160-370B : Révolution tranquille et changements politiques. Prof Coulombe.

La convention des jeunes libéraux À saveur de clichés

Philippe Lemay-Boucher

La saison estivale, c'est connu, amène avec elle ses canicules, ses odeurs pestilentielles et enivrantes mais aussi sa fournée de rassemblements et de conventions politiques. La grotesque, ridicule et géante convention républicaine aux États-Unis, le rassemblement des conservateurs canadiens et une toute spéciale pour la caste 18-30 ans que nous formons : le congrès des jeunes libéraux du Québec. Lors de ce dernier, on a pu constater, une fois de plus, à quel point le budget obnubilait cette organisation.

À l'instar des années 70, où les gouvernements du monde entier préconisaient l'utilisation de la carte de crédit nationale, les années 90 ont vu naître un peu partout sur le globe une vague de droite, ou plus justement nommée « courant de budget balancé ». Ce mouvement, incubé dans une population frustrée, à juste titre, de voir une part toujours croissante de son effort fiscal se faire gruger par les paiements d'intérêts de la dette, a particulièrement laissé sa trace sur la soi-disant Génération X.

En effet il n'est pas surprenant de constater l'influence des parents *boomers* sur leurs enfants. On les entend rechigner à chaque budget, ou même à chaque bulletin de nouvelles qui ressasse la déprime économique. Certains diront que ce sceau a toujours été la marque de plusieurs jeunes au travers les décennies (ils n'ont pas tort) mais ce qui surprend aujourd'hui, c'est sa cote de popularité. Sûrement un taux record d'adhésion.

Étrangement l'idéologie de l'équilibre budgétaire s'est transformé peu à peu en une espèce d'intransigeance et de rectitude affectées à plusieurs autres domaines : soins de santé, programmes sociaux, peine de mort, etc... comme si l'énervement causé par une dette sur laquelle on n'a plus de contrôle forçait à devenir courageux sur d'autres volets qui sont à portée de législation. Ainsi donc on lui attribua le vocable de doctrine de droite.

Rappelez-vous vos discussions entre amis ou en classe où la cruauté et la brutalité de certains arguments du genre « Y'on qu'à travailler pour gagner de l'argent » trahissait la rectitude et la compassion zéro de plusieurs. Alimentés par une deuxième source de mécontentement et non la moindre, les médias, on a presque droit lors de débats comme ceux entendus chez les jeunes libéraux, à des répliques dignes des tribunes téléphoniques. Buvant littéralement par paresse intellectuelle les répliques d'animateurs télévisés peu scrupuleux, pourfendant les vilains qui se tiennent hors de cette ligne de conduite, certains jeunes engagent la bataille avec un arsenal impressionnant de clichés et de

répliques toutes conçues.

Triste est de constater à quel point un jeune puisse fonder son raisonnement sur une approche aussi agressive. Non pas que l'idéologie prise dans son ensemble soit nocive pour la société ou menaçante pour sa survie, là n'est pas la question, ce qui décourage et rend rétrograde une telle approche, c'est la façon avec laquelle elle est enrichie, corrigée et repensée. Et cette façon devient déplorable lorsqu'elle s'inspire sans aucune ornière d'arguments fallacieux.

Le rassemblement des jeunes libéraux conviait une centaine de membres à se prononcer sur une panoplie de sujets et à agiter furieusement des pancartes partisans au signal d'un responsable aux allures de régisseur.

En abordant les sujets importants et incontournables de l'heure, comme le déficit budgétaire et la fédération canadienne, ces jeunes se sont lancés sur le terrain cahoteux de la viabilité de certains programmes sociaux.

L'illustration par excellence d'un débat

stérile fut faite lorsqu'il fut proposé de débattre sur l'imposition de travaux communautaires aux prestataires de l'assurance sociale. Parmi les nombreux arguments on en retient un mémorable qui disait, à peu de mots près, « Y vont juste moins écouter les *soap operas* l'après-midi ». Et hop ! un cliché bien réchauffé. Les arguments en faveur de ce projet fusaient de toutes parts, alors que bien peu de rébarbatifs se levaient.

Par la suite une jeune dame proposa d'amender le tout pour éviter le travail obligatoire aux mères célibataires de jeunes enfants. Un autre rétorqua avec un ton des plus sérieux que cette alternative allait créer un échappatoire pour une catégorie de bénéficiaires et que probablement plusieurs jeunes filles allaient mettre au monde des enfants seulement pour éviter la quinzaine d'heures de travaux forcés. On imagine mal une mère faire le compte des heures de soins que lui demande son enfant et décider que si ces heures représentent moins que ce que le gouvernement risque de lui imposer, elle opterait pour

la grossesse... ce qui représente un bien meilleur investissement. Ridicule !

Évidemment ces perles ne sont pas sorties de la bouche de tous les participants. Mais elles ont tout de même fait partie du débat.

Ce qui m'apparaît inquiétant, ce n'est pas de voir une option plutôt qu'une autre l'emporter, mais de voir des jeunes se rassembler autour d'une idée qui se nourrit de clichés et de débilites de la sorte. Il devient alors ardu de forger son opinion autour d'arguments solides et non-biaisés et de réussir à former consensus avec de nouvelles alternatives mais le débat en vaut la chandelle.

À l'issue du congrès des jeunes libéraux, le président du Comité national des jeunes du Parti Québécois a qualifié leurs résolutions de « méprisantes et honteuses ». Sans doute surprennent-elles par leur rectitude, leur manque d'audace et d'originalité mais lui non plus n'est pas à l'abri de voir sa propre formation s'égosiller avec des stéréotypes vides d'analyse et des redites pleines de fadaïses.

Le Castor et le Bleuets

Richard P. Henri

Moins d'un an après le référendum, les gens du Saguenay, reconnus pour leur allégeance au mouvement souverainiste, vivent une situation dramatique, certes, mais également ironique. Ils se voient confrontés à un choix moral délicat.

Les Saguenéens ont toujours défendu la souveraineté du Québec, le dernier référendum l'ayant démontré hors de tout doute. Cependant, après avoir clamé haut et fort qu'ils ne croyaient pas au fédéralisme canadien, ils acceptent aujourd'hui plusieurs dizaines de millions de dollars du gouvernement fédéral pour la reconstruction de leur région. Auraient-ils dû refuser ces fonds ?

Si les Saguenéens avaient voulu porter un grand coup, politique et historique, et prouver une fois pour toutes que le Québec peut se débrouiller seul, ils auraient décidé de refuser l'aide fédérale. S'il avait voulu goûter à la souveraineté, la vraie, pas celle des discours ou des idées, mais celle de la dure réalité, ses habitants auraient décidé de décliner l'argent du fédéral et rebâtir seuls leur société « à la québécoise ». Car, si un peuple peut revendiquer son autonomie financière dans les moments les plus difficiles, il prouve hors de tout doute qu'il peut s'en sortir dans la vie de tous les jours, loin des crises et des catastrophes naturelles.

Néanmoins, on aura beau ressortir les résultats du décompte référendaire, le Québec demeure une province du Canada et le Saguenay en demeure une région. Alors, pourquoi les Saguenéens auraient-ils refusé de l'argent qui leur a été offert et auquel ils ont contribué ?

On est d'ailleurs en droit de se demander si les Saguenéens avaient les moyens de refuser ces fonds en provenance d'Ottawa. Personne n'a jamais prétendu que le Québec était invulnérable; mais la catastrophe du mois dernier suggère un Québec fragile qui ne peut, en un tour de magie, voler de ses propres ailes parce que le cœur lui en dit.

Cela prouve-t-il que le Québec doit demeurer à l'intérieur du Canada ? Bien sûr que non. Cela démontre plutôt qu'un pays n'est jamais absolument souverain. Quand un malheur survient dans une région du monde ou une autre, c'est la communauté internationale qui se mobilise pour lui venir en aide. Par exemple, certains groupes sociaux et politiques américains ont offert leur aide financière et matérielle à la région du Saguenay. La question se pose à savoir si, à la suite d'une victoire du OUI au référendum, le Canada aurait agi en aussi bon voisin et aurait coopéré avec tant d'empressement à la reconstruction d'une de ses anciennes régions dissidentes... Sans rancune !

Pour sa part, le gouvernement fédéral profite d'une chance en or de prouver aux

Saguenéens que le castor canadien est fervent de bleuets. En répondant promptement aux attentes des sinistrés, le gouvernement fédéral, s'il n'a pas encore ébranlé des croyances (car il faut attendre que le déluge passe avant de faire un bilan tant économique que politique) a assurément ouvert une brèche dans le discours souverainiste.

En effet, cet investissement du gouvernement fédéral au Saguenay risque de s'avérer plus rentable qu'une coûteuse campagne de publicité lancée au Québec sur la beauté des Rocheuses ou sur l'anniversaire de l'unifolié. Cette prompte réaction du gouvernement fédéral demeure une action essentiellement politique dont les artisans attendent les résultats avec impatience et bien des espérances. Ce faisant, elle promeut un certain sens des responsabilités fédérales.

Reste à voir comment réagiront les principaux intéressés. Si un nouveau vote était tenu demain, quel en serait le résultat ? La population du Saguenay se sentirait-elle redevable envers le gouvernement fédéral ? Rien n'est moins sûr. Elle pourrait très bien considérer que les outils qu'on lui aura fourni lui étaient dûs.

En continuant à prôner les vertus de la souveraineté, les Saguenéens risquent d'être accusés de mordre la main qui les a nourri... ou qui les aide à reconstruire. Leurs détracteurs auraient-ils tort ou raison ?

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needs to be consulted," McGowan said at a May 15 Senate meeting, supporting the Estates General on the future of McGill.

Claire Heenan of the QPIRG-McGill group Alternatives to Education, agreed. "The whole community would be involved. It wouldn't be just a few token students, faculty and staff — it would be the whole institution."

For Heenan the Estates General would have been an opportunity to ensure that the people who are making the changes are accountable to the rest of McGill.

"Their voice would be heard, that's the difference — it couldn't be ignored."

But according to McGowan, the unstated reason Senate blocked the Estates General proposal is that academic policy decisions are the domain of Senate itself — not some new forum which could be dominated by students.

Students currently hold under 20% of the seats on Senate, an imbalance which rendered their almost unanimous support of the Estates General proposal virtually ineffective.

But former post-graduate student representative George Lozano agreed with Senate's decision to kill the Estates General.

"Most people, myself included, thought that, at this stage, a public discussion would be a *huge* waste of time. The proper time was two years ago," wrote Lozano in a recent e-mail to the graduate students he represented, "not now, when we have already set forth on a very specific, and perhaps undesirable path."

Lozano argued that Principal Bernard Shapiro's plans for the debt-ridden University — like those outlined in last year's infamous *Towards a New McGill* memo — show that the administration already has its plan for McGill's future, and is beyond the stage of listening.

"I saw [the Estates General] as a public relations exercise that would give students and other members of the university community a forum in which their views would be aired and ignored," said Lozano.

Indeed, before the vote was held, Principal Shapiro warned Senate that if the Estates General were approved it would not be a decision-making body. "All it can do is elaborate certain recommendations and provide some feedback from the community," he cautioned.

Lozano also believes that the executive administration was against the idea of an open forum, and brought it to Senate with the intention of having it fail.

"[VP Academic Bill] Chan, Shapiro and McGill could have then claimed that they had every intention to consider

the views of the University community, but *senate* did not allow it," Lozano explained in his e-mail.

Lozano and McGowan both pointed out that, although VP Academic Chan had proposed the motion, he did not speak in favour of it and abstained from voting.

The Estates General public forum was first suggested by a special task force appointed by Principal Shapiro last year.

Thursday, August 29, 1996

Headed by professor Rod MacDonald, the task force said the bold approach was necessary in the face of "serious, urgent and university-wide" challenges to the future of McGill.

"We recommend the immediate convocation of an Estates General at which the challenges facing the University... [and] their solution can be debated," read the task force's report.

But instead of bringing the

task force's bold recommendations of an Estates General directly to Senate, Shapiro charged a Senate subcommittee — chaired by Chan — to review the task force's proposals and incorporate them into a report of its own.

Finally, on May 29, Chan presented a synthesis of his subcommittee's recommendations — including the task force's Estates General proposal — to Senate.

The failure of the motion at

Senate has prompted the undergraduate Students' Society of McGill University to plan an open forum of its own.

"We're going to take a day and have 'celebrity guests', [like Dean of Students Rosalie Jukier] come and talk about the future of the University," said McGowan.

"The end result of these meetings might be a proposal or a position paper, or even a manifesto on the future of the University."



1. TAXES A PROBLEM?

Argentine President Carlos Menem says he will reject pressure from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for an increase in taxes to enable the country to balance its budget.

The IMF and Argentina are currently re-negotiating agreements, and revising economic goals, after the country reported a \$2.5 billion fiscal deficit for the first half of 1996.

IMF officials say Argentina's deficit is linked to the lack of pressure on collecting taxes.

The government and its critics both disagree with this argument, although for different reasons. The critics say that neither the IMF nor Menem are addressing inherent problems such as a high consumer tax versus a low tax on personal assets, allowing large companies and wealthy individuals to account for only two per cent of the gross domestic product.

According to U.S. economist Kenneth Galbraith, the Argentinean tax system is unjust. "There cannot be an economy of social well being without a firm tax system, and a progressive tax system is the civilised answer to income inequalities in the market," he stated.

But the IMF doesn't seem to question the consumer tax at all.

Meanwhile, Menem, while rejecting any criticism of Argentina's tax system, did however admit that "fiscal fraud is permanent." He estimated that the treasury is losing up to 40% of the total tax revenue and added that this is "truly corruption."

Some observers believe that the government is afraid to crack down on tax evasion. "There is no will to collect taxes from large evaders who should be the largest contributors," said one commentator.

In Argentina, tax evasion

does not bring mandatory jail sentences, even in large fraud cases.

Source: *Peacenet* - info@igc.apc.org

2. Vietnamese refugees slash their arms

In Thailand last week, some 30 Vietnamese boat people slashed themselves with knives and scissors to escape being sent back to Vietnam.

The self-inflicted wounds enabled the Vietnamese to go to the hospital for treatment instead of being put on board two flights back to Vietnam. Their action did not, however, stop the Thai government from sending another 170 Vietnamese — mostly women and children — back to Vietnam.

The Thai Interior Ministry began the repatriation of the boat people from the Sikhui refugee camp on June 29 under the Orderly Departure

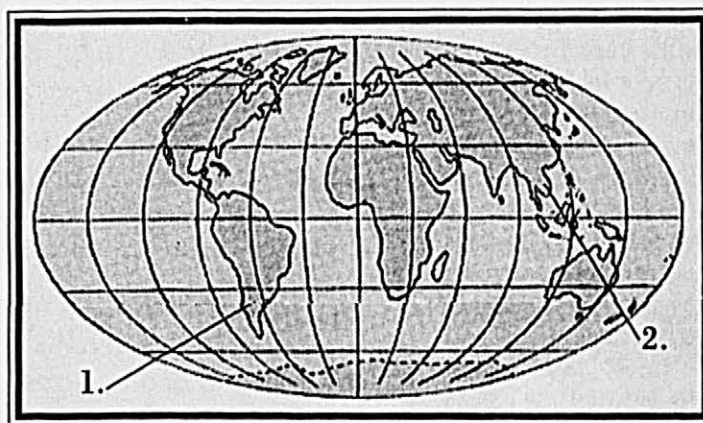
Programme implemented by Thailand, Vietnam and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

The Interior Ministry intends to clear the camp of boat people by September, when the funding from the UNHCR expires. The UN agency, after screening over 4 000 of the refugees at Sikhui, declared them to be economic refugees and therefore ineligible for resettlement in other countries.

Although many of the boat people are opposed to repatriation, Damri Wattanasing, Thai Minister of the Interior believes that they will eventually voluntarily agree to return home as they will give up hope of being resettled in other countries.

But the refugees are afraid to return to Vietnam, where they may be persecuted for having left in the first place.

Source: *The Bangkok Post*.
Webmaster@bankokpost.co.th



comment

The Security agent is described as being a Caucasian male, between 30 and 35 years of age, approximately 6'3", clean shaven and sporting a buzz cut and a Pinkerton's uniform.

He was driving a McGill Security red Tracker jeep, marked Car 4, with license plate F539082.

It still makes me shake a little when I think about it.

Everytime I see one of those red jeeps go by, I tense up. I feel like they're watching me, debating whether or not I'm another "threat" that needs to be dealt with.

It's weird because there was a time, not so long ago, when I felt safer seeing the Trackers glide by, especially in the middle of the night.

That was before I saw a McGill Security agent chase a man across the street and slam him over a waist-high cement wall, right in front of the McGill Bookstore.

That was before the McGill

employee calmly insisted that he was just doing his job, protecting McGill students like me.

That was before he nailed a man on public property, in broad daylight, just two feet away from me — just because the man was ruining the view for some tourists strolling across our gentrified campus.

The University should put up a sign: Absolutely No Trespassing! (Except for people who can afford to pay the tuition or buy the souvenirs.)

The Security agent said he had just swung by to investigate some calls about some guy hanging around the Bookstore and acting aggressively. "Restraining tactics" only became necessary when the man refused to cooperate and identify himself, explained the agent, when he finally realized that my friends and I were not just going to walk away.

Never mind that the "suspect" did not, by law, have to identify himself at all, since no charges were laid against him.

The Security agents dismissed such thoughts as technicalities not worthy of their time and consideration.

And let's not even think about McGill's apparent resolve to throw anyone without proper ID off campus, by any means necessary. Or should we?

The Security agent seemed to think his time would be better spent trying to threaten us and make us feel more vulnerable.

Instead of examining the power he was abusing, he told us how hurt and under-appreciated he felt, busting his ass everyday and putting his own safety on the line, trying to keep ungrateful students like us safe.

"I just hope you don't need my help anytime soon," he sneered before jumping back into his jeep.

Maybe if I just stay away from Car 4 I'll still manage to feel safe on this campus. Maybe.

Robin Perelle

One is too many

Homeless deaths spark inquest and a call for more funds

by Idella Sturino

Melvin Tipping is in his 50s but looks older, and he is sweet. Each time I talk with him, he reminds me that his name has appeared in several newspapers, and he's even been on TV news.

I met Melvin in July outside the Coroner's Court in Toronto. Both of us were there to observe the inquest into the freezing deaths of three homeless men, but we came from different vantage points. I had just landed a short stint telemarketing and was home for a few weeks. I had come to support the work my mother, Cathy Crowe, does as a nurse who provides health care for homeless people. Melvin was there to support members of the Toronto Coalition Against Homelessness, many of whom he knows through the services they provide to homeless, underhoused and poor people. He was also there to witness the proceedings, which for Melvin and many others, carried significant importance. After all, many of the daily observers saw the inquest as about more than isolated deaths.

The inquest was about homelessness, an often misunderstood and overlooked reality for thousands in most big cities; the outcome of the inquest would be a sort of judgement call, a verdict about that reality. Melvin himself used to be homeless, and he knew two of the men who had died.

COALITION PUSHES FOR REAL INQUEST

The inquest that Melvin and I were attending was ordered by the Chief Coroner's office in Toronto sometime last winter, after pressure from community workers mounted in the aftermath of three deaths: In January and February, three homeless men were found frozen to death on the streets of downtown Toronto.

In January, Eugene Upper, a 56 year old Caucasian man was found dead in a bus shelter. Nearly a month later, Mirsalah-Aldin Kompani, a 41-year-old Iranian born refugee, was found dead under an expressway, his hands frozen to his face and his shoes tied around his neck. The follow-

ing day, 63-year-old Irwin Anderson, Native Canadian, was found in the doorway of

monials about the homeless situation in Toronto.

Their accounts were heard by a panel of concerned individuals, including *Globe and Mail* columnist Micheal Valpy, actress/activist Sarah Polley, Addiction Research Foundation scientist Patricia Erickson and Steve Lane, formerly homeless himself.

The panel produced a report entitled "One is Too Many" which called for more affordable housing and a reversal of Ontario Premier Mike Harris' cuts to welfare and social spending — cuts which social workers say have led to harder times for people on the streets. Weeks later, as the official Upper, Kompani and Anderson inquest was finally under way, the report's 44 recommendations were endorsed by Toronto's Board of Health, and sent to City Council to await action. The Board also passed a resolution condemning presiding coroner Dr. Murray Naiberg's constant restriction of evidence about housing and welfare.

But TCAH didn't stop there. The 28-member coalition pushed for full standing at the inquest, demanding a say in what would effectively be an epilogue of the men's lives. Though only six of its member agencies were eventually granted this standing, they were able to push for a wider scope for the inquest on behalf of the full coalition.

Coroner accused of "cover up"

From the onset, TCAH fought to have their voices, and the voices of people directly effected by homelessness, represented at the Upper, Kompani and Anderson inquest. TCAH members published a daily "Inquest Update" and distributed them to regular observers and media. Sometimes, Melvin would offer to bring a handful to a drop-in-centre or card game, to spread the news.

Still, the coroner ruled that the jury need only examine

the "direct" causes of the men's deaths.

Given that two of the men had alcohol problems, and one a mental illness, Naiberg ruled that only evidence related to these direct causes of death, as well as the availability of hostel beds and barriers to their use, would be admissible.

Naiberg refused to allow evidence about affordable or supportive housing, social assistance or treatment to be entered.

This led TCAH supporters and members, many of them homeless, to hold noon-hour protests outside the Coroner's Court against "Naiberg's cover-up."

Between bites of sandwiches provided daily by TCAH member agencies, people walked in a circle chanting "Housing, not hostels!" and "Hey hey, ho ho, homelessness has got to go!" in front of TV cameras.

LINK BETWEEN CUTS AND HOMELESSNESS SHOWN

Not surprisingly, courtroom clashes between Naiberg and TCAH lawyer Peter Rosenthal became the norm, with Naiberg often silencing Crown witnesses and overruling Rosenthal's efforts to bring up

"As a society, we are being faced with decisions about how the most vulnerable are to be treated. This is your opportunity to give advice."

-Crown witness James Froh, co-ordinator of Toronto's Anishnawbe Health Street Patrol programme for homeless people, addressing the jury at the inquest.

contextual evidence about homelessness.

"When it comes to a segment of the population that is this vulnerable, politics really shouldn't enter into it."

-Ian Prittie, juror at the inquest into the deaths of Upper, Kompani and Anderson.

TCAH supporters saw the clashes as stemming from the Coroner's personal biases. On day seven of the Upper, Kompani and Anderson inquest, Naiberg stated that

"Irwin Anderson was the author of his own misfortune," while explaining his ruling against the admissibility of evidence about Anderson's eviction from his apartment.

Yet, throughout the five-week inquest, evidence of the lack of affordable housing and adequate incomes consistently arose, painting for the jury, an undeniable picture of the larger social context of homelessness.

Crown witness James Froh, who co-ordinates a street patrol programme in Toronto, was allowed to testify that premier Mike Harris' recent 21.6% cut in welfare rates, combined with a lack of affordable housing and a growing number of evictions as the province becomes more hostile to tenant rights, were leading to an increase in the numbers of homeless.

Although Naiberg had ruled testimony about social assistance inadmissible, for some reason he let Froh speak, and the jurors listened attentively.

"If you had a 22% cut in your take-home pay, could you afford to stay housed where you are now?" Froh asked one juror.

Froh offered a metaphor for the homeless situation in Toronto, saying that as service providers to the homeless, people like him are standing at the base of a river, watching dead bodies float down from upstream. "We must stem the flow of homelessness," he said.

But TCAH's list of witnesses was more than halved by Naiberg, who denied the majority of them on the grounds that they would have been "repetitive."

Given my mother's credentials as a nurse for over 25 years, Naiberg allowed her to

testify.

She talked about how she treats homeless people regularly for swollen feet from the amount of walking they must do during the day, as they are sent from one drop-in-centre to another, from one hostel to another. She told the jury about having to send a pregnant woman who wanted to admit herself to a detox centre, to an all-night coffee shop with some change because all the detox beds in the city were full.

"The situation is unacceptable," she said. "Can we not do something for these people?"

Despite Naiberg's rulings, the testimony of several witnesses made it hard for the jury to ignore the relevance of the fact that that Upper, Kompani and Anderson had no homes.

As Rosenthal concluded in his emotionally charged summation to the jury, he reminded them of the most basic fact of their deaths: "What these three men had in common was that they were homeless."

POWERFUL RECOMMENDATIONS

In the end, the five-member jury returned with verdicts on the three deaths that cited homelessness as a means of death, along with alcoholism, possible suicide, hypothermia, mental illness and malnutrition. The jury also presented a list of over 40 recommendations, some of which had to do with housing, despite Naiberg's ruling against evidence on the subject. Among them:

- Establishment of an ombudsperson/advocate's office to assist hostel users to resolve problems that arise regarding use of hostels.

- There should be a staff to client ratio of no more than 15 to 1 at all hostels.

- Funding for new, smaller hostels should be provided, including a new hostel for native people.

- More provincial and federal funding for services for homeless people, such as drop-in-centres, hostels, detox centres and outreach programs.

- A telephone line for crisis intervention around alcohol abuse and mental illness.

Many of the jury's other recommendations focused on improving the living standards of current hostels to make them more humane. Evidence at the inquest raised several barriers to the use of hostels; among them crowding, the risk of being robbed or abused, strict time curfews and the barring of alcohol.

Several experts testified that the banning of alcohol

meant that homeless people sometimes choose to sleep out in the cold rather than face having to go 'cold turkey' for the night and suffer serious physical withdrawal symptoms. As a result, the jury also adopted one of TCAH's more

MEANWHILE IN THE POVERTY CAPITAL...

The severity of homelessness is not relegated to Toronto. Here in Montréal, the number of people on the streets is increasing, according to

because they didn't have a mailing address, died on Montréal's streets back in 1988.

Since then, McCaughey says, the numbers have increased, as poverty in general has climbed in Montréal.

vacancy rate is estimated at 0.7% and basement apartments rent for about 1 000 dollars, it is a pressing issue.

Since 1980, Montréal rents have increased by 93%, more than the increase in the minimum wage.

But last year, instead of moving to construct more affordable housing, the province backed out of an agreement to create 15 000 new social housing units in Montréal.

In Ontario, Premier Mike Harris' government made a similar move last summer when it slashed 385 new affordable housing projects already in the works, which would have provided homes to about 45 000 low-income earners.

Although witnesses at the Upper, Anderson and Kompani inquest were not allowed to speculate about the impact of such cuts on Toronto's homeless level, the overall impression given by several witnesses was that the city's housing crisis is in fact relevant to a discussion of homelessness.

McCaughey notes that for many people, homelessness is not as far off a possibility as people think: "There's a lot of stereotyping as to who the homeless are, and a lot of people don't understand that if you're one pay cheque away from paying rent...you're at risk of being one step away from being on the street."

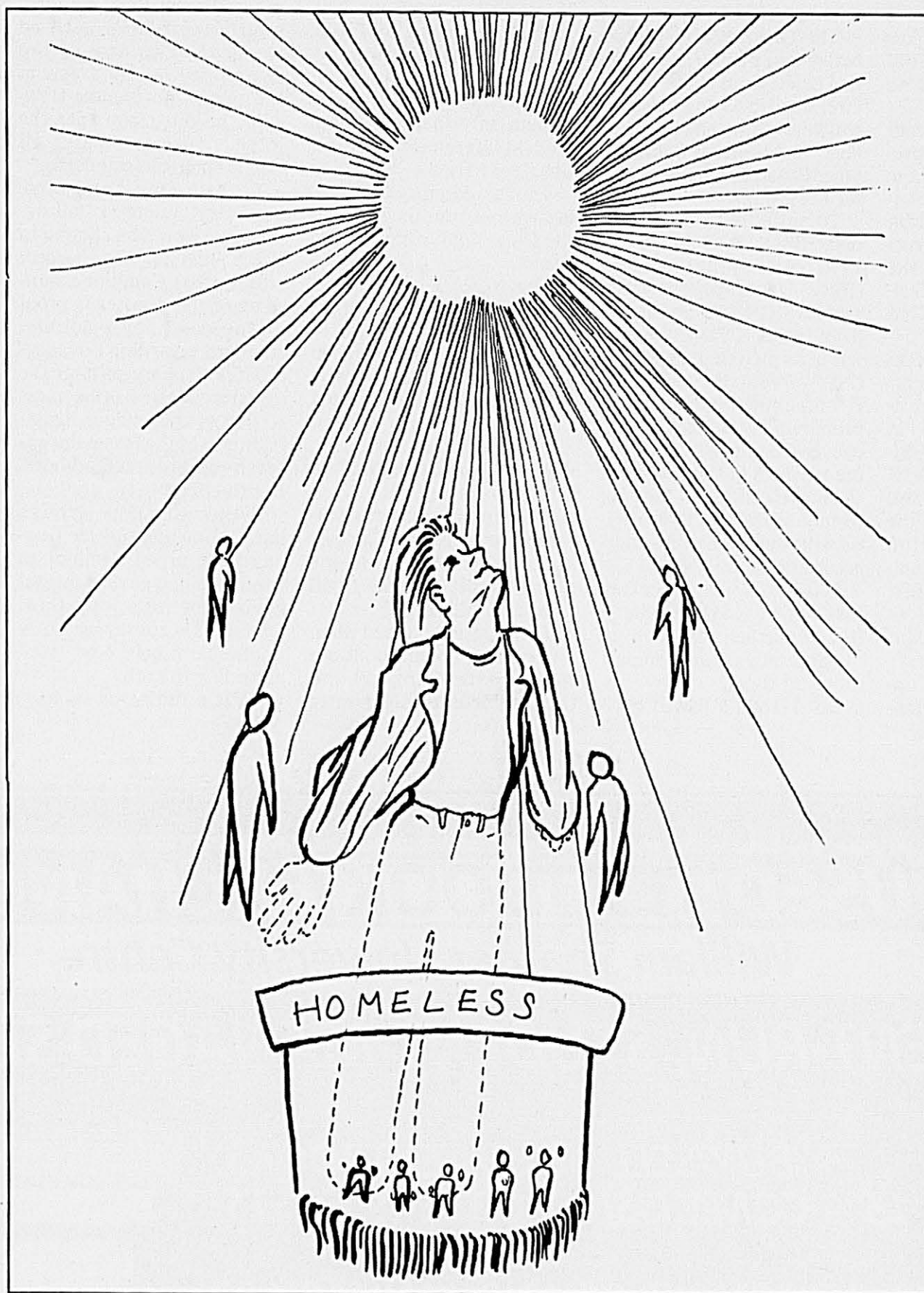
That reality is one that the TCAH members understand well.

The people they work with all have stories and reasons for being on the street, reasons the public does not usually understand or even care to ask.

Sitting on the witness stand, several agency workers who provide services to homeless clients, including my mother, remarked "It could be me."

When Melvin took the stand — the only person who has directly experienced homelessness that TCAH was allowed to call — he noted that, contrary to popular belief, "more homeless people want housing." Adding that he used to be homeless himself but was helped with his alcohol problem and housing situation by the services available, he said, "it could have been me."

-with files from Anup Grewal



controversial recommendations for the establishment of a new "wet" hostel where clients would be allowed to drink as long as they did not pose a threat to themselves or others.

While TCAH supporters were happy with the results, they were quick to point out that the real challenge is to make sure Metro Toronto and the province adopt the jury's recommendations, and provide the funds necessary to do so.

The Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing did not respond to calls about its response to the recommendations.

Dominique McCaughey of Project Genesis.

Her anti-poverty organisation serves as a two-month mailing address for homeless people so that they can receive their welfare cheques, an arrangement that was approved

A Statistics Canada report which made headlines this past summer, named Montréal as the nation's most impoverished city, with 22% of its 1.5 million residents living below the poverty line, many of them families.

The Welcome Hall Mission alone, which provides a daytime clothing and food bank, serves at least 300 families a week. According to Scott Smalridge, a recent McGill graduate who works at the Mission, the number of clients using the clothing and food bank has doubled in the last year.

While the lack of affordable housing in Montréal is not as glaring as it is in Toronto, where the apartment

"What these three men had in common was that they were homeless."

-TCAH lawyer Peter Rosenthal

by the City after three homeless men, cut off from welfare

The McGill Daily

brief

Side effects surface in cyanide spill

One year after a burst dam sent over three billion litres of cyanide-laced water into a Guyanese river, the repercussions from the Omai Gold Mine disaster continue to spread.

At a mid-August press conference, the Canadian representatives of two Guyanese groups released new documents that cast further suspicion on the design, construction and operation of the mine, owned by the Montréal-based company called Cambior.

Louis Gignac, Chief Executive Officer of Cambior Incorporated, "spared every possible expense to cut corners in his rush to steamroll over critical safety and environmental features," accused Dermot Travis, a representative for the Guyanese People's Action Party and the National Committee for Defense against Omai (NCDAO).

The groups claim that Cambior placed corporate profits ahead of the safe operation of the mine, using dan-

gerous practices abroad that would never have been allowed in Canada.

The Omai disaster "never had to take place if a company had cared more about the environment and the safety of workers than the 'bottom line,'" said Shelley Kath, the other Canadian representative for the groups.

To support their accusations, the NCDAO points to a 1990 report by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) about the dam, released when the dam was in its planning stages. The UNDP report criticised the environmental impact survey prepared by Rescan, a Vancouver firm, for Placer Dome, then owners of the Omai site.

The Rescan report did "not include significant hydrological surveys or monitoring," according to the UNDP.

Evidence from another dam disaster involving Rescan throws further suspicion on the accuracy of their impact survey at Omai.

Last March, a flawed envi-

ronmental survey was the partial cause of a disaster at the Marcopper mine in the Philippines, according to Travis. The Philippine's Under-secretary for the Environment, Delfin Ganapin, accused Rescan of "doctoring data [and] hiding relevant information," said Travis.

The flawed process continued when it came time to build the Omai mine, according to Travis.

The NCDAO alleges that Cambior sacrificed environmental safeguards in order to bring the dam into production as cheaply as possible. Travis says that the mine cost Cambior \$144.9 million American dollars to build, 25% less than the original estimate by Placer Dome.

"Eliminating critical features may have saved Cambior \$50 million dollars, but the ultimate cost was the Omai disaster," said Kath.

The disaster occurred when water from a holding pond ate through its retaining wall, and the cyanide-laced pond water

spilled into the river.

When contacted for comment, Henry Roy, a representative of Cambior, declined to respond to any of the charges leveled by Travis at the press conference. However, he did claim that the mine, "operates under all North American standards."

But Kath was not convinced. Cambior's practices "fall below what would be allowed in North America," she charged, adding that Cambior's handling of the disaster is proof of the company's double-standard regarding Guyana.

More than a year after the disaster, there has been no testing of the indigenous inhabitants of the Essequibo watershed to detect adverse health effects of the spill.

Although many groups both inside and outside Guyana have urged Cambior to conduct some environmental review of the situation, Cambior's keeps saying "show us the harm before we test," according to Kath.

"It is a ludicrous stance,"

she insisted.

"If this had happened in the St. Lawrence river, no one would be waiting to see if children started developing health problems sometime down the line before implementing health testing and clean-up," she continued.

"When you dump 3.2 billion litres of cyanide effluent into a river, there is a presumption of harm."

Kath said that their group is receiving anecdotal reports from local residents that confirm that there have been side effects from the spill, such as a marked drop-off in the number of fish in the river — a staple of the local diet — as well as skin rashes and impotency.

Travis and Kath are expected to launch a court action in Québec within the next 60 days on behalf of the 16 600 residents of the Essequibo area.

by M-J Milloy

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UBC, NO... LA SORBONNE, OUI!

PQ TELLS STUDENTS TO STAY HOME, SORT OF

by Zachary Schwartz

Want to go to Queen's next year? Pay for it yourself.

Beginning next September, Québec will no longer grant loans or bursaries for most education outside of the province.

The doors began to shut this summer, when PQ Education Minister Pauline Marois announced that, after this academic year, no financial assistance will be given to Québec residents pursuing undergraduate degrees beyond Québec's borders.

The restrictions do not apply to postgraduate studies or to students already enrolled in programmes outside the province.

Out-of-province programmes deemed by the PQ to meet the "imperative need of the Québécois collectivity" or the "maintenance of la francophonie" have also been

spared.

So, while you won't get a Québec Student Loan to study at Yale, you can still get one for the Sorbonne in Paris.

In the face of ever-shrinking federal funding, Marois claims this measure will save the provincial student loan agency, Direction Générale de l'Aide Financière aux Étudiants, 1.5 million dollars.

"We want to tighten the criteria for access to financial aid to reserve it for those who need it," said Marois.

But according to McGill's undergraduate students' society VP External Chantal Da Silva, the changes will hurt the poorer students the PQ claims it is trying to protect.

"The rich can go anywhere and study, while the poor cannot," Da Silva explains. "Québec is helping to create an even greater discrepancy

between the haves and have-nots."

Although provinces such as British Columbia already deny financial assistance to students leaving the province to study, their students are still eligible for Canada Student Loans, distributed by the federal government. In Québec, the federal money given for education is distributed exclusively by the province.

"So if a student applies for financial aid and gets screwed at the provincial level, there's nowhere else to go," says Da Silva.

Da Silva, along with SSMU VP University Affairs Don McGowan, is worried that other budget-cutting provincial governments will "follow Québec's lead," and similarly deny financial aid to students studying out-of-province.

"I'm almost 80% sure that OSAP [Ontario Student Aid Program] will do the same," says Da Silva.

Da Silva and McGowan have already written McGill's Board of Governors, asking for support in denouncing the changes. A formal motion will be presented this fall.

"It'll be nice to know that we have the backing of the administration," says Da Silva. "I'd like to see [McGill's] people in Québec city exert some political pressure."

At least one member of McGill's administration has already spoken out against the restrictions, but for different reasons.

According to McGill Chancellor Gretta Chambers, cutting off students in all programmes except those which maintain "la francophonie" make the PQ's action seem

"blatantly political."

"The new rules have obviously been drawn up on the basis of language of study," wrote Chambers in the Gazette this summer, calling the PQ's action "mean-spirited."

McGowan is also worried that about the long-term impact on anglophone education in the government's promotion of "la francophonie".

"I see this loans thing as the thin end of the wedge. The next step may well be to ask why Québec taxpayers should be supporting the education of non-francophones in Québec," says McGowan. "McGill might take this as an opportunity to 'lighten the government's load' and go private, and the government won't care."

Da Silva disagrees. "It's a student issue — it affects students across the board. It's not a French and English issue."

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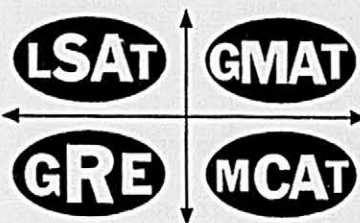
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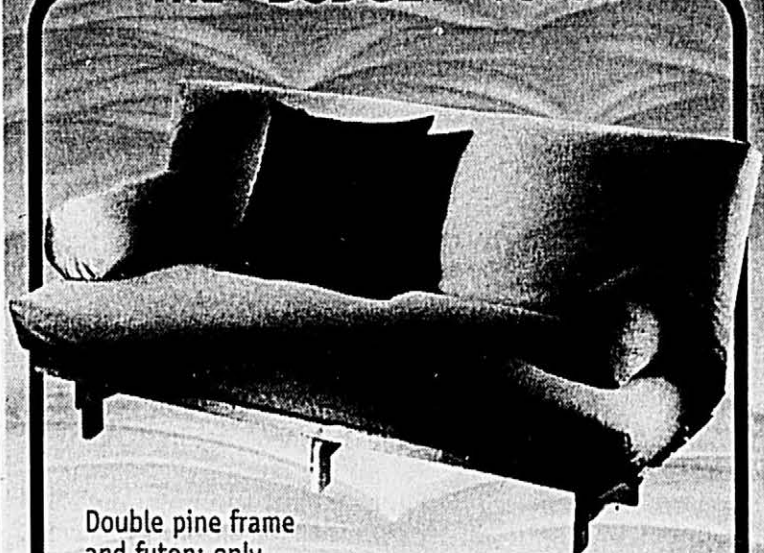
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106-300A TOPICS IN CANADIAN STUDIES I: NATIONALISMS IN CANADA (3 credits)

A study of theories and experience of ethnic, sociopolitical, economic and cultural nationalism in Canada and its impact on the shaping and evolution of Confederation. (Prof. Desmond Morton).

106-301A TOPICS IN CANADIAN STUDIES II: Understanding Western Canada (3 credits)

An interdisciplinary course on the history, economics, culture, sociology and politics of the Prairie West since 1870. (Prof. Gerald Friesen, Seagram Visiting Professor)

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By examining various contemporary Canadian cultural forms, including cinema, literature and music, the course looks at major issues surrounding culture in Canada, including language, regionalism, multiculturalism, and the proximity of the United States. Topics included may vary from year to year. (Prof. Will Straw)

106-404B CANADIAN STUDIES SEMINAR IV: CANADA'S WAR OF INDEPENDENCE (3 credits)

An interdisciplinary seminar on Canada's experience in the First World War as a catalyst for change. The course will explore topics from literature, economics, history and politics. (Prof. Desmond Morton).

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A study of the "stuff" of our lives; using a multidisciplinary approach to the interpretation of the nontextual materials which have shaped the lives of past and present Canadians, using the resources of the McCord Museum and other Montreal museums, galleries and collections. (Sec. 01 reserved for Architecture Students; Sec 02 for Canadian Studies students; Sec 03 for others.) (Ms. Rhona Kenneally)

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Bottomless cup of coffee, 2 eggs, toast, home fries, lettuce & tomato **\$1.23**

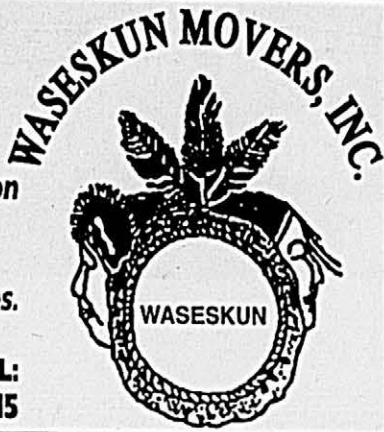
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(514)635-7537 or (514)932-0215



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21.



Ads may be placed through the Daily Business Office, Room B-07, University Centre, 9h00-14h00. Deadline is 14h00, two working days prior to publication. McGill Students & Staff (with valid ID): \$4.60 per day, 3 or more consecutive days, \$4.05 per day. General Public: \$5.75 per day, or \$4.90 per day for 3 or more consecutive days. Extra charges may apply, prices include applicable GST (7%) or PST (6.5%). Full payment should accompany your advertising order and may be made in cash or by personal cheque (for amounts over \$20 only). For more information, please visit our office or call 398-6790. WE CANNOT TAKE CLASSIFIED ADS OVER THE PHONE. PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD CAREFULLY WHEN IT APPEARS IN THE PAPER. The Daily assumes no financial responsibility for errors, or damages due to errors. Ad will re-appear free of charge upon request if information is incorrect due to our error. The Daily reserves the right not to print any classified ad.

H O U S I N G

377 Sherbrooke W. 900 sq. ft. 1 b. room air cond. Indoor garage, wall to wall carpet, 4 appl. included. poss. semi furnished bright & quiet. 397-1544

For rent spacious clean rooms situated corner Durocher/Prince Arthur streets west. Call Rex 845-6406 8am-11:30am or after 8pm for appointment and information.

For professor or senior student. \$430 per month. All services and comforts included. 10 minute walk to University. Large with patio, intercom and alarm system. Residential, calm. 843-8360.

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Moving/Storage. Closed van or truck. Local & long distance. Ott-Tor-Van-NY-Fla-7 days, 24 hours, low rates. Steve 735-8148.

Moving Best Rates. Local/Ontario. Small & big moves. Call now for quote. Frank or Gaby 426-5030 Pager 599-6938

H E L P W A N T E D

Looking for drivers with cars for restaurant delivery. Call Tony 933-7000.

Travel-Teach English CGTI offers in Mont. a 1 wk (Oct 23-27) eve/weekend intensive course to certify you as a teacher of English (TESOL) 1,000's of overseas jobs available. Now! Free info pak (403) 438-5704.

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WordPerfect 5.1. Term papers, resumes, applications, transcription of micro-cassettes. Editing of grammar. 28 years experience. \$1.75/D.S.P. 7 Days/week. Campus/Peel/Sherbrooke. Paulette/Roxanne 288-9638/288-0016

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S E R V I C E S O F F E R E D

Concert/sports tickets for sale. Del Leppard, Cranberries, Garth Brooks, Smashing Pumpkins, Expos Baseball, World Cup Hockey. Info: 766-0298 Joseph.

F O R S A L E

For sale, Piano, Heintzman, apartment sized, redone, under warranty to April 1997, call 398-6790. Ask for Marian.

N O T I C E S

Donate now your old computers PC or Macs to deprived radio stations in Cuba. For more info call Keith. 844-0265.

Have You Thought About Taking Translation as an Elective?

The Department of Languages and Translation, Centre for Continuing Education, offers undergraduate credit courses in

German Translation

German to French

Spanish Translation

Spanish to English

Spanish to French

These 13-week courses start the week of 9 September. A mastery of both source and target languages is required. The emphasis is on written language.

Students wishing to take any of these courses must sit an admissions test.

In order to register, contact the Department of Languages and Translation

760 Sherbrooke Street West
Montréal, Québec H3A 1G1

Tel.: (514) 398-6160

Fax: (514) 398-2650

E-mail: Info@conted.lan.mcgill.ca



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Weekdays: Low Mass 5:45 pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
7:30, 9:30 am Wednesday
12:00 noon Saturday

We will also be auditioning new choristers in September. If interested: 288-4428

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*Based on intermittent access **Students with valid ID

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS

Campus Recreation

Fall 1996

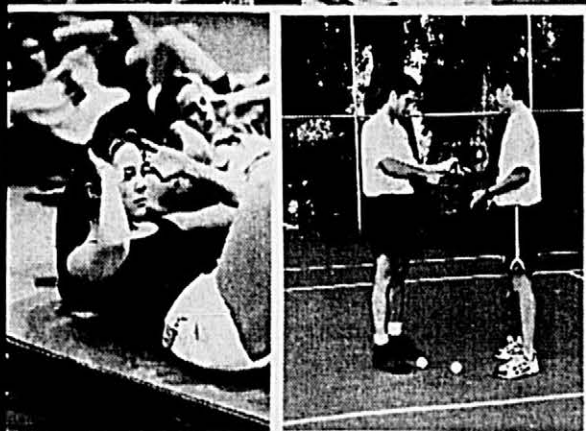
INTRAMURAL SPORTS PROGRAM - FALL 1996

SPORT	CATEGORY	COST <small>OST & PST Included</small>	REGISTRATION	NUMBER OF PLAYERS		CAPTAINS' MEETING	PLAY BEGINS	GAME DAYS AND TIMES	LOCATION
				TO REGISTER	MAXIMUM				
BADMINTON TOURNAMENT	MEN WOMEN DOUBLES	\$7.00 per player	Oct. 16, 09:00 to Oct. 23, 17:00	1	N/A	Draw posted Campus Rec Office Oct. 24, 17:00 hrs.	Oct. 26	Oct. 26 & 27 10:00 - 18:00 hrs.	Gymnasium
BASKETBALL LEAGUE	MEN A,B WOMEN	\$70.00 per team	Sept. 17, 09:00 to Sept 24, 17:00	10	16	Sept. 24 18:30 hrs. Fieldhouse	Sept.29	Mon. 19:30-22:30 Tue. 17:30-22:30 Sun. 11:00-18:00	Fieldhouse A & B
FLAG FOOTBALL LEAGUE	MEN WOMEN	\$70.00 per team	Sept. 3, 09:00 to Sept. 10, 17:00	12	18	Sept. 10, 18:30 hrs. Fieldhouse	Sept.14	Mon. 18:00-21:00 Fri. 18:00-21:00 Sat. 09:00-17:00 Sun. 09:00-17:00	Forbes Field and Lower Campus
HOCKEY LEAGUE (FALL & WINTER)	MEN A,B,C WOMEN	\$400.00 per team	Sept.18, 08:30 to 17:00	13	20	Sept. 18, 18:30 hrs. Gymnasium, Rm. 408	Sept.23	Mon. 19:15-00:30 Tue. 20:15-00:30 Wed. 19:15-00:30 Fri. 19:15-00:30 Sun. 13:30-23:30	McConnell Winter Stadium
SOCCER LEAGUE	MEN A,B,C WOMEN	\$100.00 per team	Sept. 3, 09:00 to Sept. 10, 17:00	13	20	Sept. 10, 18:30 hrs. Fieldhouse	Sept.14	Mon. to Thur. 21:00-23:30 Sat. & Sun. 09:00-23:00	Molson Stadium
SOFTBALL LEAGUE	MEN CO-REC	\$70.00 per team	Sept. 3, 09:00 to Sept. 10, 17:00	Men - 12 Co-rec - 7 Men & 5 Women	18	Sept. 10, 18:30 hrs. (Men & Co-Rec) Fieldhouse	Sept.14	Mon. to Fri. 16:00-18:00 Sat. 09:00-18:00 Sun. 09:00-18:00	Middle Field and Molson Stadium
TENNIS TOURNAMENT (OUTDOOR)	MEN A,B WOMEN	\$7.00 per player	Sept. 3, 09:00 to Sept. 10, 17:00	1	N/A	Draw posted Campus Rec Office Sept. 11, 17:00 hrs.	Sept.12	Sept. 12 to 15	Forbes Field Tennis Courts
ULTIMATE LEAGUE	CO-REC	\$70.00 per team	Sept. 3, 09:00 to Sept. 10, 17:00	5 Men & 5 Women	18	Sept. 10, 18:30 hrs. Fieldhouse	Sept.14	Sat. 09:00-17:00 Sun. 09:00-17:00	Forbes Field
VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE	MEN WOMEN	\$70.00 per team	Sept.17, 09:00 to Sept. 24,17:00	10	16	Sept. 24, 18:30 hrs. Fieldhouse	Sept.30	Mon. 19:15-22:30 Tue. 19:15-22:30 Wed. 19:15-22:30	Gymnasium 1 & 2
VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE	CO-REC A,B	\$70.00 per team	Sept.17, 09:00 to Sept. 24,17:00	5 Men & 5 Women	16	Sept. 24, 18:30 hrs. Fieldhouse	Oct. 2	Wed. 19:30-22:30 Thur. 17:00-22:30 Fri. 19:00-22:30	Fieldhouse A & B
3 ON 3 VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT	MEN WOMEN	\$20.00 per team	Nov. 12, 09:00 to Nov. 19, 17:00	3	4	Draw posted Campus Rec Office Nov. 21, 17:00 hrs.	Nov. 23	Nov. 23 & Nov. 24	Fieldhouse
WATERPOLO LEAGUE	MEN WOMEN	\$80.00 per team	Sept.17, 09:00 to Sept. 24,17:00	10	16	Sept. 24, 18:30 hrs. Fieldhouse	Sept.28	Sat. 15:00-17:30 Sun. 14:00-17:30	Currie Pool

- In many sports space is limited — registration is on a first come first served basis.
- Please note that registration deadlines are strictly enforced.
- A representative from each team must attend the captains' meeting for that sport.

Registration: Campus Recreation Office G35
Sports Complex, 475 Pine Avenue West

The Instructional Program has Something for Everyone!!



Course Registration Begins

Wednesday, September 11, 1996
08:00 - 18:00 hrs.

SPORTS COMPLEX
475 PINE

Courses offered in the areas of:
 Aquatics Martial Arts
 Dance Outdoor Pursuits
 Fitness Racquets
 Varia

Most classes begin the week of
September 16, 1996

PAY-AS-YOU-GO FITNESS

Through the fall and winter, the Department will be offering an exciting Pay-As-You-Go Fitness program. Classes will feature Step and Aerobics. Both activities are designed for a total body workout.

Step is a challenging low impact class based around stepping onto an adjustable platform.

Aerobics is an upbeat, advanced high impact class.

SCHEDULE:

Aerobics:	Tuesday & Thursday	17:30 - 18:25 hrs.
	Friday	16:00 - 16:55 hrs.
	Saturday, Sunday	12:00 - 12:55 hrs.
Step:	Mon/Wed/Fri	17:00 - 17:55 hrs.
	Saturday, Sunday	13:00 - 13:55 hrs.
Cost:	Sports Complex Members	\$1.70*/\$2.50/class

Tickets go on sale in the Sports Complex 15 minutes before class.

*Book of 10 tickets for \$17.00 purchased in advance (members only).

INFORMATION • 398-7011